

**Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Road (Regional Road 37) and Rice Road (Regional Road 54) in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland**

# **APPENDIX**

## **N**

### **Indigenous Consultation**

**If technical reports are required in an alternative format for accessibility needs, please contact:**

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
Manager, Transportation Planning - Public Works, Niagara Region  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Email: [Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)**

**Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Road (Regional Road 37) and Rice Road (Regional Road 54) in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland**

# **APPENDIX**

## ***N-1 Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation***



## Shams, Anika

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**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2021 5:00 PM  
**To:** fawn.sault@mncfn.ca  
**Cc:** megan.devries@mncfn.ca; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; McGill, John; Shams, Anika; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_Indig Cover letter NOC\_Mississauga.pdf; IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_Project Summary\_Rev01-14-01-2021.pdf; Merritt-Rice-Notice-of-Study-Commencement-Final.pdf

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**Attention: Fawn Sault, Consultation Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter, project summary, and the Notice of Study Commencement for more details.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://www.niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37/default.aspx>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
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Fawn Sault  
Consultation Manager  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
[Fawn.Sault@newcreditfirstnation.com](mailto:Fawn.Sault@newcreditfirstnation.com)

January 14, 2021

**Re: Notice of Study Commencement - Schedule 'C' Municipal Class  
Environmental Assessment for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional  
Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland**

Dear Ms. Sault,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) has initiated a Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.

The Niagara Region has received direction from the Provincial Crown that the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation may have an interest in the Project. The Niagara Region is committed to involving stakeholders and Indigenous Nations in this Study. Attached is the Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary. Please feel free to share this information within your community as you feel appropriate.

We are interested in understanding any interests or questions that the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation may have about this Project and if there is a potential for the Project to affect Indigenous and treaty rights. We would also be interested to know if there are any sites of cultural significance to your community within, or adjacent to, the study area. If you would like to meet in person and discuss, please feel free to contact the undersigned. We will contact you by telephone in the near future to determine your interest in a meeting.

Sincerely,

*M. Elmadhoon*

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

*Jeff Suggett*

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Cc: Megan DeVries ([megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca))  
Mary Kelly, Wood ([mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com))

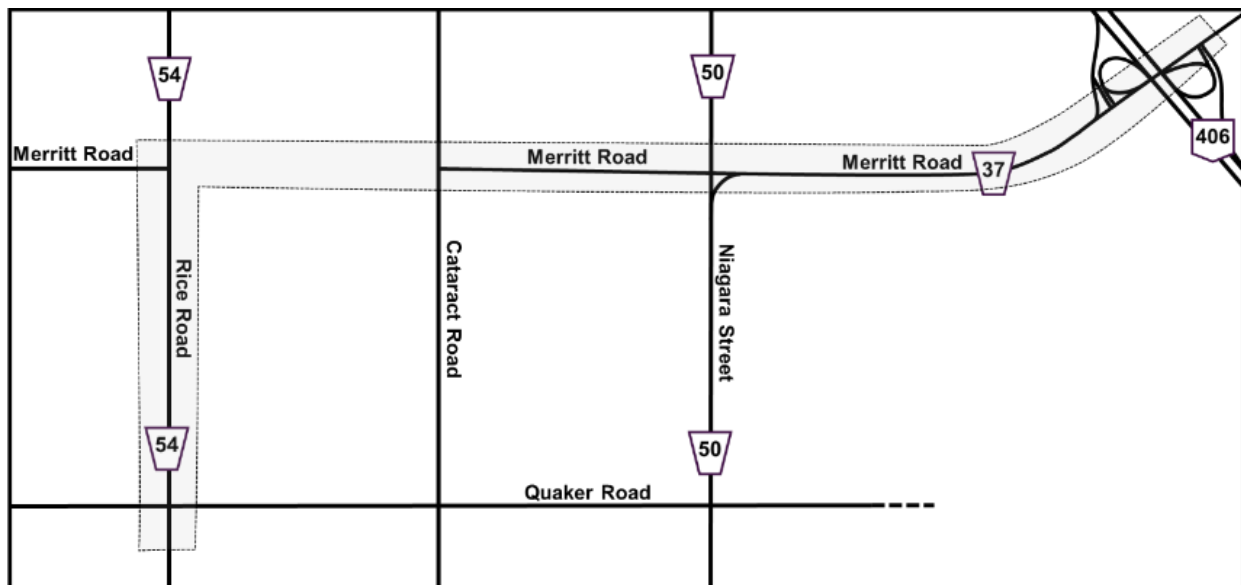
Encl: Notice of Study Commencement; Project Summary

## Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study for Improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland

A Municipal Class EA is a decision-making and planning process that identifies the potential effects of projects, such as road improvements, so that they can be managed prior to implementation.

### Project Description

The Region of Niagara (Niagara Region) has initiated a Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland. The Study aims to reimagine the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users.



The Region's goal is to provide a key transportation link that will allow for direct access between Rice Road and Highway 406, via Merritt Road, with specific consideration given to the environmentally sensitive lands. The study will also include improving future traffic conditions to existing sections of Rice Road and Merritt Road, as a result of the proposed developments in the study area. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities. The Niagara Region has retained Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions (Wood) to undertake the Study.

## **Municipal Class Environmental Assessment**

This Study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The purpose of this Class EA is to:

- Confirm the need for road improvements
- Identify and evaluate potential improvement options
- Through a rigorous assessment, recommend the most feasible infrastructure improvement solution
- Identify the potential effects associated with the recommended solution and identify practical measures to avoid or mitigate potential negative effects

The first step in the study process is to develop an understanding of the current conditions in the study area as well as a forecast of future traffic growth. Once baseline conditions and future traffic levels are known, the Region will develop potential alternatives to meet the future growth demand.

The Class EA planning process helps identify the potential effects of proposed projects. Each proposed alternative is assessed against baseline conditions to determine the potential effects, and where necessary, identify mitigation measures to minimize or avoid those impacts. From these alternatives, the most feasible alternative is identified.

A key component of this study is to consult with regulatory agencies, conservation authorities, stakeholders and Indigenous groups.

## **Baseline Studies**

Baseline studies are prepared to describe the current biological, human and physical environment conditions. The following investigations will be completed as part of this study:

- Biological Environment: Species at Risk, Vegetation, Wildlife, and Wetlands
- Human Environment: Archaeology, Built and Cultural Heritage, Land use and Socio-economics, and Visual aesthetics / landscape design
- Physical Environment: Stormwater, and Soils

## Potential Project Related Effects

Potential study effects will be identified through an evaluation of the alternatives, and for the preferred alternative, mitigation measures to address these potential effects will be developed. This may include effects on:

- Heritage properties and cultural heritage landscapes
- Environmental features including land-based and water-based environments.

## Schedule and Next Steps

- Field Studies: tentatively planned for summer and fall 2021
- Public Information Sessions: tentatively planned for March 2021, June 2021 and September 2021
- Environmental Study Report (final report): submission tentatively planned for December 2021

## Additional Information

For more information about the Region's Municipal Class EA study, please visit:  
<https://www.niagararegion.ca/news/notices/notice.aspx?q=514>

## Contact Information

### **Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way,  
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6

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[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

### **Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

3450 Harvester Road, Suite 100,  
Burlington, ON L7N 3W5

Telephone: 905-380-3601

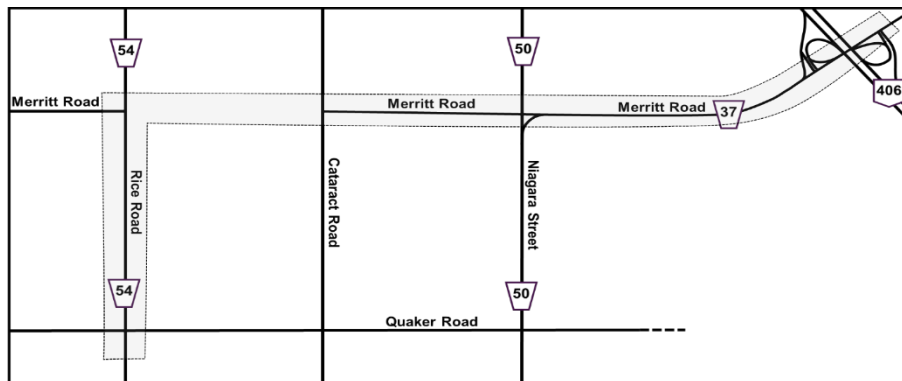
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

# Notice of Study Commencement

## Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

### The Study

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) has initiated an Environmental Assessment Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study aims to reimagine the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

### The Process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) Municipal Class EA document (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 & 2015), which is an

approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report (ESR) will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## Public Comments Invited

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. Project notifications will be issued at key milestones through advertisement in local newspapers, emails and mail outs to the contacts on the Study Mailing List. Three (3) Public Information Centres (PICs) **(possibly in an online format)** will be conducted to solicit public input. The PICs will provide an opportunity for the public to review the proposed alternative solutions and designs, as well as provide comments and discuss concerns and issues with the project team. As the Study progresses and more information becomes available, it will be posted on [the project webpage](#).

## COVID-19

Niagara Region recognizes that this project is being carried out during uncertain times with respect to the Covid-19 pandemic. Niagara Region will take all necessary steps to ensure maintaining the health and safety of the public. Given the uncertainty of the pandemic, most of the future consultation and communications with the public will be online. As such, the project team is asking that **if you would like to receive future notices via email, to please provide your email address** to the Region Project Manager identified below. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of the project team members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way,  
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment &  
Infrastructure Solutions  
3450 Harvester Road, Suite 100,  
Burlington, ON L7N 3W5  
Telephone: 905-380-3601  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Notice First Issued: January 4, 2021.

Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Shams, Aniq

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**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 4:44 PM  
**To:** Megan DeVries; Howell, Cara; Fawn Sault  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; Suggett, Jeff; Seguin, Jason; van den Burg, Gina; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Wilson, Michael; Tassone, Frank; Ryall, Carolyn  
**Subject:** RE: Information Sharing Letter - Merritt and Rice Road  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_InformationSharingLetter-MCFN\_1-02-2021.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Megan,

Thanks to your response to the Information Sharing Letter for the upcoming Stage 1 archaeological assessment along Merritt Road and Rice Road. I tried calling you and left you a message to provide you with an overview of the project. The project team will be more than happy to share with you the final Arch Stage 1 report once complete. If you have any questions or concerns on the attached information letter, please do not hesitate to contact me or contact our consultant and cc me.

We appreciate providing the agreement document, however we don't see the need to sign an agreement at this time. Once the non-technical Stage 1 archaeological assessment report is complete, we can review again and sign the agreement if required based on the recommendations of the Stage 1 desk top review.

Please let me know if you have any question.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
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---

**From:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:25 PM  
**To:** Howell, Cara <cara.howell@woodplc.com>; Fawn Sault <Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Seguin, Jason



<jason.seguin@woodplc.com>; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Information Sharing Letter - Merritt and Rice Road

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Hi Cara,

Thank you for the letter. You will see that I contacted Jason Seguin yesterday after receiving notification that the PIF had been withdrawn from the Ministry. As our letter outlines, MCFN would like to participate in the Stage 1 AA.

At this time, MCFN does not require an FLR to be present during the Stage 1 site visit. We do, however, ask to review the draft report when available. If the project manager from Niagara Region can review and execute the attached agreement for this purpose, it would be greatly appreciated. Please let me know if Wood or the Region have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Megan.

**Megan DeVries, M.A. (she/her)**  
**Archaeological Operations Supervisor**



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**  
**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**

4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0

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**From:** Howell, Cara <[cara.howell@woodplc.com](mailto:cara.howell@woodplc.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 11:54 AM

**To:** Fawn Sault <[Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Seguin, Jason <[jason.seguin@woodplc.com](mailto:jason.seguin@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** Information Sharing Letter - Merritt and Rice Road

Good Morning Fawn,

Please find attached an information sharing letter for the upcoming Stage 1 archaeological assessment along Merritt and Rice Road.

Please feel free to contact me if you any questions or concerns.

Regards,  
Cara

Cara Howell B.A.  
Member, Association of Professional Archaeologists (Ontario)  
Senior Archaeologist, Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
3450 Harvester Road, Suite 100 Burlington, Ontario L7N 3W5  
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February 1, 2021

Reference Number: IM20103036  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON  
N0A 1H0

Attention: Ms. Fawn Sault, Consultation Manager, Department of Consultation and  
Accommodation, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
Via e-mail to: *Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca*

**RE: Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment in Support of a Schedule C Municipal Class  
Environmental Assessment and Detailed Transportation Assessment along  
Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the  
Town of Pelham, City of Thorold, and City of Welland.**

Dear Ms. Sault,

The Niagara Region requires a Stage 1 archaeological assessment in support of a Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment and Detailed Transportation Assessment for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold, and City of Welland. Study Area. The study area is shown in **Figure 1**. The Notice of Study Commencement along with Project Summary was shared with you on January 14, 2021.

This information sharing letter is provided in keeping with Niagara Region's ongoing Indigenous engagement process. This letter provides the schedule for Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, Study Area map, scope of work, and information on the Archaeology Team Members.

### **Schedule for Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment**

It is assumed that the Stage 1 archaeological assessment fieldwork will take place during February 2021, weather permitting. The Stage 1 fieldwork will take two days to complete. A winter work strategy was submitted, and approved, to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries' (MHSTCI).



Figure 1 - Stage 1 Study Area

## Scope of Work for Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

The scope of work for the Stage 1 background study will consist of the following tasks:

- Indigenous Engagement;
- Contact the MHSTCI to determine a comprehensive listing of recorded archaeological sites within 1 kilometre ("km") of the study area;
- Contact the MHSTCI to determine a comprehensive listing of previous archaeological assessments that have been conducted within a 50 meter ("m") radius;
- A desktop review of the study area's physical setting to determine its potential for both historic and precontact human occupation, including its physiographic and hydrographic situation, soils, and proximity to important resources and historical transportation routes and settlements;
- A review of the potential for historic period occupation as documented in historical atlases and other archival sources;
- A property inspection to gather current, first-hand information on archaeological potential and to aid in delineating where archaeological potential may have been impacted or removed by recent land-use practices;
- Mapping, photography and production of other relevant graphics;
- An executive summary preceding the main text of the report will be prepared summarizing the findings and recommendations of the report;
- Preparation of a Draft Stage 1 archaeological assessment report of findings with recommendations regarding the need for further archaeological work if deemed necessary.

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment and site visit will be conducted in accordance with the MHSTCI 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* set out by the MHSTCI pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18.

## Project Team

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA, Associate Archaeologist Role: Senior Review**— Dr. Popkin is an Associate and Senior Archaeologist at Wood. Peter has over 20 years of professional experience in both consulting and academic archaeology within Canada and internationally. In Ontario he has successfully undertaken consultant archaeology projects triggered by: the Planning Act (subdivisions, site plans, re-zoning, official plan amendments, consent), the Environmental Assessment Act (individual and Class EAs, provincial and federal EAs), the Environmental Protection Act (Renewable Energy Approvals O.Reg 359/09), as well as the Aggregates Resources Act (aggregate pit extensions), and has managed projects under the National Energy Board Act (now the Canadian Energy Regulator Act). Dr. Popkin has lectured in archaeology at York University, the University of Toronto and Wilfrid Laurier University in Ontario, as well as University



College London, King's College London, and Birkbeck College, in the UK. Dr. Popkin holds a Professional Archaeology Licence (P362) from the MHSTCI, is a Professional Member of the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals (CAHP) and is a full Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCI(A)). Dr. Popkin received his Ph.D. from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, London, UK (2009).

**Barbara Slim, M.A., Associate Archaeologist, Ontario Archaeology Discipline Lead, Role: Technical Review** – Ms. Slim is a professionally licensed archaeologist with over 16 years of experience in the archaeology and environmental consulting industry. Ms. Slim has conducted all aspects of Stage 1 to 4 archaeological assessments for provincial agencies, municipalities, and land developers in support of infrastructure developments, financial real estate transactions, environmental remediation and private developments. As a founding member of the Wood Ontario archaeology team, Ms. Slim has performed every aspect of project execution, from client relations, project design to MHSTCI clearance. Through her project experience, Ms. Slim has gained an in-depth understanding of the Heritage Act and legislations & standards associated with cultural heritage management. Ms. Slim holds a Master's Degree in Anthropology from Trent University and an Honours Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies and Anthropology from Trent University. Ms. Slim currently holds a Professional Archaeology Licence (P348) issued by the MHSTCI and is a member of the Ontario Association of Professional Archaeologists.

**Cara Howell, B.A., Senior Archaeologist, Role: Archaeological Project Manager and Field Director** – Ms. Howell holds a B.A. Degree in Anthropology and Classical Archaeology from McMaster University and has been working in the field of archaeological consulting since 1999. She holds an Applied Research License (R180) in archaeology from the MHSTCI and possesses a full range of archaeological skills. As a result of her specialized interest in the historic Euro-Canadian period, she has become an authority on early Euro-Canadian artifacts and historic period background research. As the archaeology Laboratory Director for Wood's Cultural Heritage Resources Group, she developed and implements a computerized cataloguing system for artifacts and other resources. Ms. Howell also serves as lead liaison with First Nations communities.

**Jason Seguin, M.A., Senior Archaeologist, Role: Project Licensee and Report Writer** – Mr. Seguin has worked as an archaeologist / anthropologist since 2004. Mr. Seguin has conducted Stage 1 to 4 archaeological assessments including background searches, field surveys, archaeological excavations, analysis of cultural artifacts, laboratory work and reporting. Mr. Seguin is involved in project management and supervision as well as being an archaeological laboratory director. Mr. Seguin has developed research and communication skills through editing field reports, teaching university level students in both lecture and seminar environments, as well as preparing and presenting presentations at academic conferences. Mr. Seguin's education and work experience have provided him with an extensive knowledge base, consisting of theoretical and practical experience in cultural resource management in Canada and Central America, as well as curatorial, archival and museum management experience. Mr. Seguin holds a Master's Degree in Anthropology from Trent University, and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Museum Management and Curatorship from Sir Sandford Fleming College. Mr. Seguin currently holds a Professional Archaeology License (License P354) issued by the MHSTCI.

We have provided this information sharing letter to demonstrate that we take your interest in the project area very seriously. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [cara.howell@woodplc.com](mailto:cara.howell@woodplc.com).

Respectfully submitted,

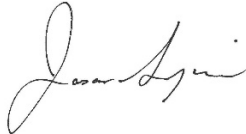
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Jason Seguin, M.A. (P354)  
Senior Archaeologist  
[Jason.seguin@woodplc.com](mailto:Jason.seguin@woodplc.com)

---

**From:** Fawn Sault <[Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:53 PM

**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>

**Cc:** Mark LaForme <[Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>

**Subject:** 2021-0065 MCFN Response to Region of Niagara Notice of Commencement EA Merritt Rd and Rice Rd.

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Dear Maged,

Please see the attached letter as our response to your project Notice of Commencement EA Merritt Rd and Rice Rd.

Miigwech,

Fawn Sault  
Consultation Coordinator  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Hwy. 6, Hagersville, N0A 1H0  
Website: <http://mncfn.ca/>  
Ph: 905-768-4260  
Cell: 289-527-6580

The Regional Municipality of Niagara Confidentiality Notice The information contained in this communication including any attachments may be confidential, is intended only for the use of the recipient(s) named above, and may be legally privileged. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, disclosure, or copying of this communication, or any of its contents, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please re-send this communication to the sender and permanently delete the original and any copy of it from your computer system. Thank you.



February 3, 2021

**VIA EMAIL**

Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca

Dear Maged,

**RE: MCFN Response to** Notice of Study Commencement EA for Merritt Rd & Rice Rd

Confirmation of Receipt


I am writing on behalf of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation ("MCFN") to acknowledge that we have received your above named communication, dated January 14, 2021 .

Outline of MCFN Rights and Territory

In 1792 , the Crown and MCFN entered into Between the Lakes, No. 3 (1792) regarding the lands in which your project is situated.

The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation are the descendants of the "River Credit" Mississaugas. The undisputed Territory of the MCFN is defined as a Territory commencing at Long Point on Lake Erie thence eastward along the shore of the Lake to the Niagara River. Then down the River to Lake Ontario, northward along the shore of the Lake to the River Rouge east of Toronto then up that river to the dividing ridges to the head waters of the River Thames then southward to Long Point, the place of the beginning. Our Territory encompasses the lands and waters that were used and occupied by our Ancestors. Territories are usually large tracts of land that reflect the breadth required for seasonal activities and habitation and changes in those movement patterns through time. Through Treaties with the Crown, MCFN agreed to share our Territory with newcomers. However, not all of MCFN's Territory has been dealt with through a Treaty.





With the exception of a small part of the Credit River, our Treaties with the Crown did not deal with the water parts of our Territory. We have not agreed to share any part of our waters with settlers. We formally gave notice to the Crown of this claim in 2016. We note that any lands that have been artificially created on our waters have also not been dealt with by any Treaty.

Like our ancestors before us, we continue to use the lands, waters, and watershed ecosystems within our Territory for a variety of livelihood, harvesting, ceremonial and spiritual purposes. We have always exercised governance functions and stewardship in order to protect our Territory, conserve the fish and wildlife that depend upon it, and ensure its ongoing ability to sustain our people. We assert that our Aboriginal and treaty rights fundamentally entitle us to continue to act as stewards of our Territory, to be involved in decisions that affect it, and to participate in the ongoing, responsible management of the resources it provides.

#### Duty to Consult and Accommodate

As you will know, the Crown has a constitutional duty to consult and accommodate MCFN in respect of any decisions that might affect its asserted or proven Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights. We expect that, consistent with the Crown's constitutional duty, no approval should be issued to this project until MCFN has been sufficiently consulted and accommodated. Nothing in this letter shall be construed as to affect our Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights and hence shall not limit any consultation and accommodation owed to MCFN by the Crown or any proponent, as recognized by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

MCFN has the right to free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project or any planning decision adversely impacting its Territory and to benefit economically from resource development within its Territory.

MCFN has formed the Department of Consultation and Accommodation ("DOCA") to represent its interests in consultation and accommodation matters. It is DOCA's mandate to ensure that we are directly involved in all planning and development that impacts the integrity of our Territory. In this regard, DOCA will assess and help alleviate impacts on our rights, land claims, and ways of life by building relationships with governments and private sector proponents. We share a mutual interest in ensuring that projects in the Territory are planned, reviewed, and developed in a manner which ensures healthy communities, ecological protection, and sustainable development for present and future generations in the Territory.



#### **DEPARTMENT OF CONSULTATION AND ACCOMMODATION**

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Hwy #6, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0



Phone: (905) 768-4260



MCFN is not opposed to development, but MCFN must to be involved in development decision making. MCFN has a deep connection to its Territory and we have a stewardship responsibility for our land. By engaging with us, a project proponent can learn our perspective on how to care for this land and we can work together to shape the project to mitigate damaging effects to our land and perhaps even work to improve our environment. MCFN is the only party who shall determine whether there are impacts to our Aboriginal and treaty rights.

One of the ways we require proponents to engage with us is in providing transparency during the environmental survey and archaeological assessment process. The best way to accomplish this is by having Field Liaison Representatives (“FLRs”) on location while fieldwork is occurring, who can ensure that the Nation’s special interests and concerns are respected and considered during fieldwork. The cultural and natural resources in question are part of MCFN’s territory and heritage and it is our responsibility to ensure their protection, on behalf of the Nation. MCFN’s stewardship of its territory extends through the life of any development project and beyond.

#### DOCA Project Registration

DOCA has completed an initial intake review of the project communication you have provided. This file has been assigned DOCA Project 2021-0065 ; please use this number in all future communications.

We respectfully ask you to immediately notify us if there are any changes to the project.

#### Referral to DOCA Units

Following DOCA’s initial intake review of the project communication, the file has been referred to the following DOCA Units for additional follow-up.

	<b>Unit Identification</b>	<b>Primary Contact</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
✓	Archaeology	Megan DeVries	<a href="mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca">megan.devries@mncfn.ca</a>
✓	Cultural/Historical	Darin Wybenga	<a href="mailto:darin.wybenga@mncfn.ca">darin.wybenga@mncfn.ca</a>
✓	Environment	Fawn Sault (Temp)	<a href="mailto:fawn.sault@mncfn.ca">fawn.sault@mncfn.ca</a>
✓	FLR Participation	Megan DeVries	<a href="mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca">megan.devries@mncfn.ca</a>
	Governance	Mark LaForme	<a href="mailto:mark.laforme@mncfn.ca">mark.laforme@mncfn.ca</a>
	Economic Development	Director	<a href="mailto:SED.Director@mncfn.ca">SED.Director@mncfn.ca</a>

If you have not been contacted by the indicated DOCA Units within fourteen days following receipt of this letter, please let me know.



#### **DEPARTMENT OF CONSULTATION AND ACCOMMODATION**

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Hwy #6, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0



Phone: (905) 768-4260



### Request for Missing Information

In order to proceed with our follow-up review, we ask you to ensure that all available information relating to the project has been transmitted to us. We have identified the following general information as missing from your initial project communication:

Outstanding Project Information	
✓	Name of person or body undertaking the action or decision.
✓	Contact information for the person or body undertaking the action or decision.
✓	List of documents pertaining to the proposed action/decision that are available for MCFN to review.
✓	Description of what other information is expected to become available before the proposed action/decision is undertaken.
✓	Deadlines or filing dates pertaining to the action/decision.
✓	The Crown or Municipal review/ approval that is required for the project.
✓	How the proposed action or decision may affect and/or benefit MCFN, its rights and territory.

### Closing

We ask that you respond with the above requested information within fourteen days following receipt of this letter. We thank you in advance for your attention to our requirements and we look forward to working with you further to shape the planning for development in our Territory.

Sincerely,



Fawn Sault  
Consultation Coordinator  
[fawn.sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:fawn.sault@mncfn.ca)



#### DEPARTMENT OF CONSULTATION AND ACCOMMODATION

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Hwy #6, Hagersville, Ontario NOA 1H0



Phone: (905) 768-4260



---

**From:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>

**Sent:** Friday, February 5, 2021 10:13 AM

**To:** Fawn Sault <Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>

**Cc:** Mark LaForme <Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca>

**Subject:** RE: 2021-0065 MCFN Response to Region of Niagara Notice of Commencement EA Merritt Rd and Rice Rd.

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Niagara Region email system. Use caution when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

Please find attached a letter from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation ("MCFN") regarding the upcoming assessment for Merritt Rd and Rice Rd EA, as identified below.

Please note that, in order to continue maintaining DOCA capacity for fulsome project participation, DOCA charges for technical review of project information. In the exercise of its stewardship responsibility, DOCA seeks to work together with project proponents and their archaeological consultants to ensure that archaeological work is done properly and respectfully. DOCA has retained technical advisers with expertise in the field of archaeology. These experts will review the technical aspects and cultural appropriateness of the archaeological assessments and strategies associated with your project. Upon completion of these reviews, MCFN will identify, if necessary, mitigation measures to address any project impacts upon MCFN rights. For cultural materials and human remains, DOCA may advise that this includes ceremonies required by Anishinaabe law, as well as request adjustments to the proposed fieldwork strategy.

The proponent is expected to pay the costs for MCFN to engage in a technical review of the project. DOCA anticipates at this time that all archaeological review will be undertaken by in-house technical experts, but will advise the proponent if an outside peer-review is required. Please find attached the agreement that covers MCFN's inhouse technical review of the archaeological assessments and strategies associated with your project(s). If you could please fill in the additional required information, highlighted in yellow, and return to us a signed copy, that would be greatly appreciated. After we have received it, we can execute the contract on our end and return the completed contract to you. Afterwards, I can arrange scheduling and other related matters directly with the consultant if you prefer.

Sincerely,  
Megan.

**Megan DeVries, M.A. (she/her)**  
**Archaeological Operations Supervisor**





February 5, 2021

**VIA EMAIL**

Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region

Dear Maged Elmadhoon,

**RE: MCFN Archaeological Review for**

Notice of Study Commencement EA for Merritt Rd & Rice Rd

Confirmation of Receipt

I am writing in follow up to the letter of response dated February 3, 2021 by Fawn Sault, Consultation Coordinator, from the Department of Consultation and Accommodation ("DOCA") on behalf of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation ("MCFN") to acknowledge that we have received your above named communication, dated January 14, 2021.

Outline of MCFN Rights and Territory


In 1792, the Crown and MCFN entered into Between the Lakes, No. 3 (1792) regarding the lands in which your project is situated.

MCFN has formed the Department of Consultation and Accommodation ("DOCA") to represent its interests in consultation and accommodation matters. In this regard, it is DOCA's mandate to ensure that we are directly involved in all planning and development that impacts the integrity of our Territory. DOCA will assess and help alleviate impacts on our rights, land claims, and ways of life by building relationships with governments and private sector proponents. We share a mutual interest in ensuring that projects in the Territory are planned, reviewed, and developed in a manner which ensures healthy communities, ecological protection, and sustainable development for present and future generations in the Territory.

MCFN has a stewardship responsibility over its Territory and asserts that our Aboriginal and treaty rights fundamentally entitle us to preserve our culture and heritage, including

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Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Hwy #6, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0

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archaeological materials and human burials. Our Territory is the source of our identity as a First Nation and the basis for many cultural activities and spiritual ceremonies. It is home to sacred sites, burial grounds, traditional teachings and meeting places, and sites of profound archaeological and historical significance. We assert that our Aboriginal and treaty rights fundamentally entitle us to preserve our cultural and heritage.

Too much of our cultural objects and the remains of our ancestors have been lost already through development of the most intensely urbanized lands in Canada and we have a strong interest in ensuring that no more of it becomes bulldozed and desecrated.

#### MCFN Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology

In April 2018, MCFN Chief and Council adopted the *MCFN Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology*, a document aimed to provide guidance to consultant archaeologists, proponents, governments, etc. who are conducting archaeological assessment activities within MCFN's Territory. It sets out, in MCFN's own words, what engagement with our Nation should entail for archaeology as well as technical expectations for fieldwork, in relation to the provincial regulations which were created without our input and feedback. It is important to note that MCFN holds all archaeological resources present within its Territory as of interest to the Nation as part of their cultural patrimony. Resources, regardless of size, frequency, condition, etc., should not be interpreted by non-MCFN representatives in such a way as to remove the requirement for engagement with our Nation.

We are attaching a copy for your reference. We expect compliance with these *Standards and Guidelines* as any fieldwork you will be conducting will have the potential of disturbing MCFN's cultural artifacts or its ancestors' remains.

#### MCFN Expectations Regarding Ancestors' Remains

MCFN has obligations under Anishinaabe law to protect burials within its Territory and MCFN maintains its right to do so. Our ancestors buried their loved ones in our Territory with the understanding that they would not be disturbed.

We would also like to draw your attention to our expectation that at any time that ancestral remains are encountered during fieldwork, we expect all activities on site to stop and that MCFN be contacted immediately to determine a proper course of action.

#### Technical Review

In the exercise of its stewardship responsibility, DOCA seeks to work together with project proponents and their archaeological consultants to ensure that archaeological work is done properly and respectfully. DOCA has retained technical advisers with expertise in the field of archaeology. These experts will review the technical aspects and cultural appropriateness of the archaeological assessments and strategies associated with your project. Upon completion of these reviews, MCFN will identify, if



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necessary, mitigation measures to address any project impacts upon MCFN rights. For cultural materials and human remains, DOCA may advise that this includes ceremonies required by Anishinaabe law, as well as request adjustments to the proposed fieldwork strategy.

The proponent is expected to pay the costs for MCFN to engage in a technical review of the project. DOCA anticipates at this time that all archaeological review will be undertaken by in-house technical experts, but will advise the proponent if an outside peer-review is required. Please find attached the agreement that covers MCFN's in-house technical review of the archaeological assessments and strategies associated with your project. Please fill in the additional required information, highlighted in yellow, and return to us a signed copy.

Please note that capacity at DOCA is limited. We maintain the right to review all material that comes to our office as part of our consultation process. If you have specific filing deadlines, please advise us as soon as possible. However, it is MCFN's assertion that part of the process of meaningful engagement is allowing our Nation a reasonable amount of time to review, reflect upon, and respond to reports and recommendations. On average, this process can be accomplished in 4-6 weeks. It is our position that no archaeological assessment – but especially Stage 4 mitigation – should begin until DOCA has completed our review and is in agreement that with the proposed strategy for fieldwork.

#### Request for Missing Information

In order to complete our project record, we ask that you provide the following information:

1. Is an archaeological assessment required for this project? If no, why not?
2. Have any archaeological assessments already been completed for this project and/or its study area? If yes, please provide all documentation including reports, supplementary documentation, etc.
3. Has the MHSTCI issued a letter of entry into register for some or all of the study area? If yes, please provide all documentation, including letter, communications to and from MHSTCI, etc.
4. Is there any archaeological activity (e.g. assessment, excavation, monitoring) that has not yet been completed for the project?
5. If the answer to #4 is yes, please provide the following:
  - a. A description of the outstanding archaeological activity/activities.
  - b. Anticipated date of the activity/activities.
  - c. The appropriate contact person overseeing the archaeological activity/activities.



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### Closing

The review of project-related archaeological assessments is only one part of the consultation process that may be required for your development. Please contact DOCA's Consultation Coordinator, Fawn Sault, if you have any questions about the process.

We ask that you respond with the above requested information and executed agreement within fourteen days following receipt of this letter. We thank you in advance for your attention to our requirements and we look forward to working with you further to shape the planning for development in our Territory.

Sincerely,



Megan DeVries  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor  
[megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca)

Attachment(s)

*MCFN Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology* [2018]  
DOCA Archaeological Review Agreement [2020]



**DEPARTMENT OF CONSULTATION AND ACCOMMODATION**

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Hwy #6, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0



Phone: (905) 768-4260



February 5,2021

**VIA EMAIL**

Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region

Dear Maged Elmadhoon,

**RE: MCFN FLR Participation for**

Notice of Study Commencement EA for Merritt Rd & Rice Rd

Confirmation of Receipt

I am writing in follow up to the letter of response dated February 3,2021 sent by Fawn Sault, Consultation Coordinator, from the Department of Consultation and Accommodation ("DOCA") on behalf of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation ("MCFN") to acknowledge that we have received your above named communication, dated January 14,2021 .

Outline of MCFN Rights and Territory


In 1792 , the Crown and MCFN entered into Between the Lakes, No. 3 (1792) regarding the lands in which your project is situated.

MCFN has formed the Department of Consultation and Accommodation ("DOCA") to represent its interests in consultation and accommodation matters. In this regard, it is DOCA's mandate to ensure that we are directly involved in all planning and development that impacts the integrity of our Territory. DOCA will assess and help alleviate impacts on our rights, land claims, and ways of life by building relationships with governments and private sector proponents. We share a mutual interest in ensuring that projects in the Territory are planned, reviewed, and developed in a manner which ensures healthy communities, ecological protection, and sustainable development for present and future generations in the Territory.

One of the ways we require proponents to engage with us is in providing transparency during the environmental survey and archaeological assessment process. The best way

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to accomplish this is by having Field Liaison Representatives (“FLRs”) on location while fieldwork is occurring, who can ensure that the Nation’s special interests and concerns are respected and considered during fieldwork. The cultural and natural resources in question are part of MCFN’s territory and heritage and it is our responsibility to ensure their protection, on behalf of the Nation. MCFN’s stewardship of its territory extends through the life of any development project and beyond.

It is our expectation that no project-related fieldwork will take place without the participation of our FLRs. MCFN considers it disrespectful of our rights as Indigenous peoples if our natural and cultural heritage is interfered with without our involvement.

#### FLR Participation

DOCA deploys FLRs to be boots on the ground so that fieldwork by a proponent and their consultants/contractors is carried out with appropriate care, thoroughness, and respect. In the context of MCFN’s Territory, where so much natural and cultural heritage has already been lost or destroyed, MCFN’s monitoring of fieldwork is of utmost importance to ensure that the trail of desecration stops. FLRs are deployed to observe fieldwork, provide cultural advice, act as a direct link back to DOCA and MCFN, and assist with compliance.

FLRs are MCFN band members who have received training in environmental and archaeological assessments, traditional medicine identification and use, Anishinaabe burial practices, and more throughout their employment with DOCA.

DOCA requires, at minimum, FLR participation during the following project-related studies and/or activities:

- ecological and natural heritage technical studies
- archaeological assessments (Stages 2 through 4) and site visits
- monitoring of activities within 50m of areas of special concern (e.g. waterways and wetlands, archaeological sites, species at risk)
- post-construction remediation activities and follow-up impact monitoring

#### Agreement for FLR Participation

The cost for the participation of our FLRs is covered by the proponent, not the consultant, whom we view as having the ultimate responsibility to consult with, and accommodate, the Nation. Therefore, please find attached the agreement that covers MCFN’s participation in the upcoming fieldwork. The costs associated with this involvement reflect a number of expenses not visible at first glance: payment for the FLRs themselves, operational costs for DOCA, and efforts to engage the community to garner feedback on development projects. If you could please fill in the additional required information, highlighted in yellow, and return to us a signed copy so that we may arrange for FLR participation on your project, that would be greatly appreciated.



#### **DEPARTMENT OF CONSULTATION AND ACCOMMODATION**

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Once a signed agreement is in place, DOCA generally arranges scheduling and other related matters directly with the consultant conducting the fieldwork, unless you prefer otherwise.

Please note that MCFN requires two of its FLRs to be on location whenever fieldwork is taking place within its territory. The reason for this is so that FLRs can provide support and security for each other in the field. This has become a requirement in light of uncommon, but unfortunate, occurrences when FLRs have felt pressured or intimidated from external persons while at work locations. We ask that you would respect this request.

#### Request for Missing Information

In order to complete our project record, we ask that you provide the following information:

1. Please provide a list of all completed technical studies for the project, their date of completion, and the contact information of the consultant who completed each study.
2. Please provide a list of all incomplete and/or upcoming technical studies for the project, the anticipated date of fieldwork for each, and the contact information for the consultant who will complete them.
3. Are there any short-term and/or long-term avoidance and protection strategies currently in place for the natural and/or cultural resources in the study area for this project? If yes, what are they?

#### Closing

The participation of FLRs in project fieldwork is only one part of the consultation process that may be required for your development. Please contact DOCA's Consultation Coordinator, Fawn Sault, if you have any questions about the process.

We ask that you respond with the above requested information and executed agreement within fourteen days following receipt of this letter. We thank you in advance for your attention to our requirements and we look forward to working with you further to shape the planning for development in our Territory.

Sincerely,



Megan DeVries  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor  
[megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca)



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Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Hwy #6, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0



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Attachment(s)      *MCFN Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology* [2018]  
FLR Participation Agreement [2020]



**DEPARTMENT OF CONSULTATION AND ACCOMMODATION**

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Hwy #6, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0



Phone: (905) 768-4260



## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2021 1:33 PM  
**To:** Megan DeVries; Fawn Sault  
**Cc:** Mark LaForme; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; Shams, Anika; van den Burg, Gina; Ryall, Carolyn; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** RE: 2021-0065 MCFN Response to Region of Niagara Notice of Commencement EA Merritt Rd and Rice Rd.  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_MCFN Response\_Final.pdf; 2021-0065 MCFN Response to Region of Niagara Notice of Commencement EA Merritt Rd and Rice Rd.

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Dear Ms. Sault and Ms. DeVries,

Please find attached a formal response to your email below and the attached email.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question.

Best regards

Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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**From:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 5, 2021 10:13 AM  
**To:** Fawn Sault <Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Cc:** Mark LaForme <Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: 2021-0065 MCFN Response to Region of Niagara Notice of Commencement EA Merritt Rd and Rice Rd.

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Niagara Region email system. Use caution when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,



February 11, 2021

Fawn Sault and Megan DeVries  
Consultation Coordinator and Archaeological Operations Supervisor  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Hwy. 6, Hagersville, N0A 1H0  
905-768-4260  
[Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca) and [Megan.Devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.Devries@mncfn.ca)

Attn: Fawn Sault & Megan DeVries, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

**RE: DOCA Project 2021-0065  
Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd.  
(RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland**

Dear Ms. Sault and Ms. DeVries,

I am writing in response to the following letters received from the Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA) regarding the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Merritt Road and Rice Road (DOCA Project 2021-0065):

- MCFN Response to Class EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road (dated February 3, 2021 from Fawn Sault)
- MCFN Archaeological Review for Class EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road (dated February 5, 2021 from Megan DeVries)
- MCFN FLR Participation for Class EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road (dated February 5, 2021 from Megan DeVries)

The purpose of this letter is to provide the requested information from the three above-mentioned letters.

Niagara Region acknowledges that this Project is located within the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN). Thank you for providing the background on MCFN rights and territory, as well as outlining the Duty to Consult and accommodate. Niagara Region is committed to working with MCFN on shaping the Project to mitigate impacts to the land and protecting the environment. As such, Niagara Region will be transparent in any environmental works and the archaeological assessment process. In your letter, you requested the following missing information:

**MCFN Response to Class EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road (dated February 3, 2021 from Fawn Sault)**

Outstanding Project Information	Niagara Region Response
Name of person or body undertaking the action or decision.	Niagara Region is undertaking this Project and the Region's Project Manager is Maged Elmadhoon.
Contact information for the person or body undertaking the action or decision.	Maged Elmadhoon, Manager, Transportation Planning Niagara Region 1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6 Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583 Email: <a href="mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca">Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca</a>
List of documents pertaining to the proposed action/decision that are available for MCFN to review.	<p>The Project is currently at an early stage and no documents have been finalized for review. However, upon completion, we will provide the following draft documents to MCFN for review, prior to finalization and in advance of the public review process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Natural Environment Report: Summer 2021</li> <li>• Draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment: Spring 2021</li> <li>• Draft Cultural and Built Heritage Assessment: Spring 2021</li> <li>• Draft Environmental Study Report (final report): submission tentatively planned for December 2021</li> </ul> <p>In addition to these technical studies, the following other technical studies will be undertaken. Please inform us if you are interested in reviewing these reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drainage and Stormwater Management: Spring 2021</li> <li>• Detailed Transportation Assessment / Active Transportation: Summer 2021</li> </ul>



Outstanding Project Information	Niagara Region Response
Description of what other information is expected to become available before the proposed action/decision is undertaken.	We will be undertaking several technical studies to support the Project, which has been listed above. This Project will include three Public Information Centres (PIC), where we will provide an update on the Project. A summary of the technical studies will be provided at the PIC. When these materials are prepared, we will share copies of these materials with MCFN.
Deadlines or filing dates pertaining to the action/decision.	The Environmental Study Report (final report) is tentatively planned to be filed by December 2021. This will also include a 30-day review period. We will provide an opportunity for you to review the draft final report prior to the public review period.
The Crown or Municipal review/approval that is required for the project.	If no comments arise from the 30-day review period, the Crown (The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks) will approve the Project to proceed to detailed design and construction.
How the proposed action or decision may affect and/or benefit MCFN, its rights and territory.	This Project is occurring on MCFN's traditional territory. There are potential natural environment impacts associated with the road improvements and the Niagara Region is working to mitigate for these potential impacts and protect the environment. We will provide MCFN the final Natural Environment Report for review and comment, in order to achieve our common goal of protecting the natural environment features. We will also be undertaking a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment. If any further archaeological work is required, such as a Stage 2, we will engage MCFN's Field Liaison Representatives in any field activities and the archaeology team will be in contact with you to set up this agreement.

**MCFN Archaeological Review for Class EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road (dated February 5, 2021 from Megan DeVries)**

Outstanding Project Information	Niagara Region Response
1. Is an archaeological assessment required for this project? If no, why not?	A Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment will be completed as part of this Project. It is anticipated that the draft report will be available in the Spring of 2021. The draft Stage 1 report will be circulated to you for review and comment prior to submission to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). If further archaeological assessments (Stages 2+) are identified as being required through the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, these will be completed during detailed design.
2. Have any archaeological assessments already been completed for this project and/or its study area? If yes, please provide all documentation including reports, supplementary documentation, etc.	No, archaeological assessments have been completed for this Project, as of yet. If there have been other archaeological assessments completed within the study area as part of other projects, this will be identified through the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment.
3. Has the MHSTCI issued a letter of entry into register for some or all of the study area? If yes, please provide all documentation, including letter, communications to and from MHSTCI, etc.	As noted above, the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment has not yet been completed. As such, the MHSTCI has not issued a letter of entry into register for the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment for this Project.
4. Is there any archaeological activity (e.g. assessment, excavation, monitoring) that has not yet been completed for this project?	Per our responses above, the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment has not yet been completed yet, so the recommendations for activities beyond the Stage 1 assessment are not known at this time. Any recommendations for future study will be identified as part of this Project.
5. If the answer to #4 is yes, please provide the following:	As noted above, a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment will be completed as part of this Project. It is anticipated that the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment will be completed in

Outstanding Project Information	Niagara Region Response
a. A description of the archaeological activity/activities. b. Anticipated date of the activity/activities c. The appropriate contact person overseeing the archaeological activity/activities.	the Spring of 2021. The Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment will involve desktop-based review, following by a site visit to take photographs and observe site conditions. The draft Stage 1 report will be circulated to you for review and comment prior to submission to the MHSTCI.

**MCFN FLR Participation for Class EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road (dated February 5, 2021 from Megan DeVries)**

Outstanding Project Information	Niagara Region Response
1. Please provide a list of all completed technical studies for the project, their date of completion, and the contact information of the consultant who completed each study.	To date, no technical studies have been completed for this Project.
2. Please provide a list of all incomplete and/or upcoming technical studies for the project, the anticipated date of field work for each, and the contact information for the consultant who will complete them.	<p>The following is a list of incomplete and/or upcoming technical studies with field work elements for the Project. Wood is the Region's consultant for the tasks list below and their Project Lead is Jeff Suggett (jeff.suggett@woodplc.com).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Report               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Anticipated to be available in Spring 2021</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Draft Natural Heritage Assessment Existing Conditions Report               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Natural heritage field work is tentatively scheduled to begin in Spring 2021, however at this time the specific field work dates are not known.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Draft Cultural and Built Heritage Assessment:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Anticipated to be available in Spring 2021</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Draft Drainage and Stormwater Management:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Anticipated to be available in Spring 2021</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Outstanding Project Information	Niagara Region Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Detailed Transportation Assessment / Active Transportation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Anticipated to be available in Summer 2021</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Draft Environmental Study Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This document will be available for a 30-day review period during which time comments, questions and concerns related to the project are invited. Details about this review period will be included as part of the Notice of Study Completion.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>3. Are there any short-term and/or long-term avoidance and protection strategies currently in place for the natural and/or cultural resources in the study area for this project? If yes, what are they?</p>	<p>To date, no short-term and/or long-term avoidance and protection strategies have been identified for this Project. If required, potential avoidance and/or mitigation measures may be identified during this Class EA process.</p>

Again, thank you for providing your comments. If you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned. We look forward to further correspondence with you as the study progresses.

Sincerely,

*M. Elmadhoon*

Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 5, 2021 4:31 PM  
**To:** fawn.sault@mncfn.ca  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Shams, Anika; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_CoverLetter\_PIC-MCFN.pdf; notice-of-pic-merritt-rd.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Fawn Sault, Consultation Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #1.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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Fawn Sault  
Consultation Manager  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
[Fawn.Sault@newcreditfirstnation.com](mailto:Fawn.Sault@newcreditfirstnation.com)

March 5, 2021

**Re: Notice of Public Information Centre #1 - Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland**

Dear Ms. Sault,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. A Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary was sent to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation by the Niagara Region on January 14, 2021.

The Niagara Region is planning to host the Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 to introduce the Study to the community. As part of the PIC, an online presentation will be delivered on **March 24, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. If you would like to attend the online presentation, please send an email to [mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com) to receive an invite. In addition, information materials related to the Online PIC #1 will be available on the project webpage starting **March 24, 2021** and comments will be received until **April 7, 2021**. The project webpage is at <https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>.

The Niagara Region would like to invite the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation to participate in the PIC #1 and provide any comments about the project. Alternatively, the Niagara Region would welcome the opportunity to meet and present this information to you and discuss any comments you may have about the project. We are also seeking information about the potential for the project to affect Indigenous and treaty rights. If you would like to meet, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)



**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Cc: Megan DeVries ([megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca))  
Mary Kelly, Wood ([mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com))

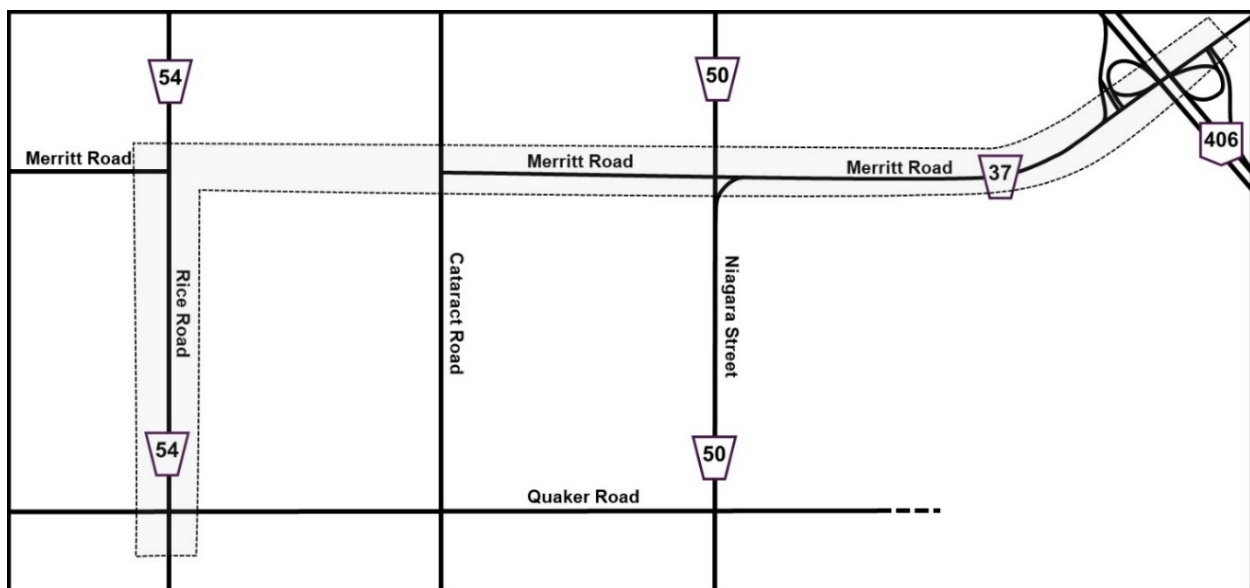
Encl: Notice of Public Information Centre #1



# Notice of Online Public Information Centre #1 Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

## The Study

Niagara Region is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study will aim to identify improvements to the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

## The process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class EA process, which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This study will address the requirements of Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class EA process. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## You are invited to participate

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. Three (3) Public Information Centers will be conducted throughout this study to solicit public input. At this time, the Niagara Region is planning to host the Public Information Centre (PIC) #1. The purpose of the first PIC is to share information about the project background, Class EA Study process, the problem to be addressed by this study, and obtain preliminary input from the public for consideration into the Study process. The PIC #1 will be held in **an online format**. You can participate in this PIC by attending an online presentation and/or by viewing information materials on Wood's Virtual Consultation Platform.

**Online Presentation:** The Study Team will deliver an online presentation on **March 24, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask any questions or submit comments. Please email [mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com) (**Mir Talpur, Environmental Planner**) to receive an invite to the online presentation.

**Virtual Consultation Platform:** Information materials related to the Online PIC #1 will be available on [Wood's Consultation Platform on project webpage](#) starting **March 24, 2021** and comments will be received until **April 7, 2021**.

## Stay Connected

If you would like to receive future notices via email, or if you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Study Team Members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Niagara Region

905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

905-380-3601

[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 12:55 PM  
**To:** fawn.sault@mncfn.ca  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Elmadhoon, Maged; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Fawn,

We are pleased to share the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region. The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link.

Download Link:  [Stage 1 AA & CH Assessment](#)

We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by May 22, 2021.

Thanks,  
Anika

### Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP

Human Environment Consultant  
Direct: + (905) 568-2929  
Mobile: + (416) 357-2093  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 15, 2021 7:58 AM  
**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; fawn.sault@mncfn.ca  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Good morning Fawn,

As a follow-up to our discussion last Tuesday, we are confirming that the Region will share a draft of the Environmental Study Report for your review when it is ready. We anticipate that this will be ready in late 2021 or early 2022. We do expect a draft of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment to be ready for review within the coming weeks, and will share this with MCFN for review when it is available.

If you should have any questions please do not hesitate to let the us know. Cheers, Mary

## Shams, Anika

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**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 8:02 AM  
**To:** fawn.sault@mncfn.ca  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Elmadhoon, Maged; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Fawn,

We are following up to see if you have had a chance to review the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for the Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region and had any questions or comments for us at this time? As a reminder, if you could send us comments or questions by May 22, 2021, that would be great. If you need more time to review, please let us know.

Thank you,  
Anika

**Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP**  
Human Environment Consultant  
Direct: + (905) 568-2929  
Mobile: + (416) 357-2093  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 12:55 PM  
**To:** fawn.sault@mncfn.ca  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Fawn,

We are pleased to share the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region. The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link.

Download Link:  [Stage 1 AA & CH Assessment](#)

We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by May 22, 2021.

Thanks,

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 4:29 PM  
**To:** fawn.sault@mncfn.ca  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_CoverLetter\_PIC2-MCFN\_26-05-2021.pdf; IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_Notice-PIC#2\_19-05-2021 (Website).pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Fawn Sault, Consultation Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #2.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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Fawn Sault  
Consultation Manager  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
[Fawn.Sault@newcreditfirstnation.com](mailto:Fawn.Sault@newcreditfirstnation.com)

May 26, 2021

**Re: Notice of Public Information Centre #2 - Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland**

Dear Ms. Sault,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.

A Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary was sent to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation by Niagara Region on January 14, 2021, followed by a Notice of Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 on March 5, 2021. PIC #1 was held from March 24, 2021 to April 7, 2021 to introduce the Study. A Summary Report documenting the comments received from PIC #1 and Study Team's responses is provided on the [project webpage](#).

The Niagara Region is now planning to host **PIC #2** to share information about the Study, the evaluation of alternative solutions, the preferred solution and obtain input for consideration into the Study. As part of the PIC, an online presentation will be delivered on **Wednesday, June 9, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. If you would like to attend the online presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#) on the day of presentation and click on the presentation link. In addition, information materials related to the PIC #2 will be available on the project webpage starting June 9, 2021 and comments will be received until **June 30, 2021**.

The Niagara Region would like to invite the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation to participate in the PIC #2 and provide any comments about the project. Alternatively, the Niagara Region would welcome the opportunity to meet and present this information to you and discuss any comments you may have about the project. We are also seeking information about the potential for the project to affect Indigenous and treaty rights. If you would like to meet, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

*M. Elmadhoon*

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

*Jeff Suggett*

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)



Cc: Megan DeVries ([megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca))  
Mary Kelly, Wood ([mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com))

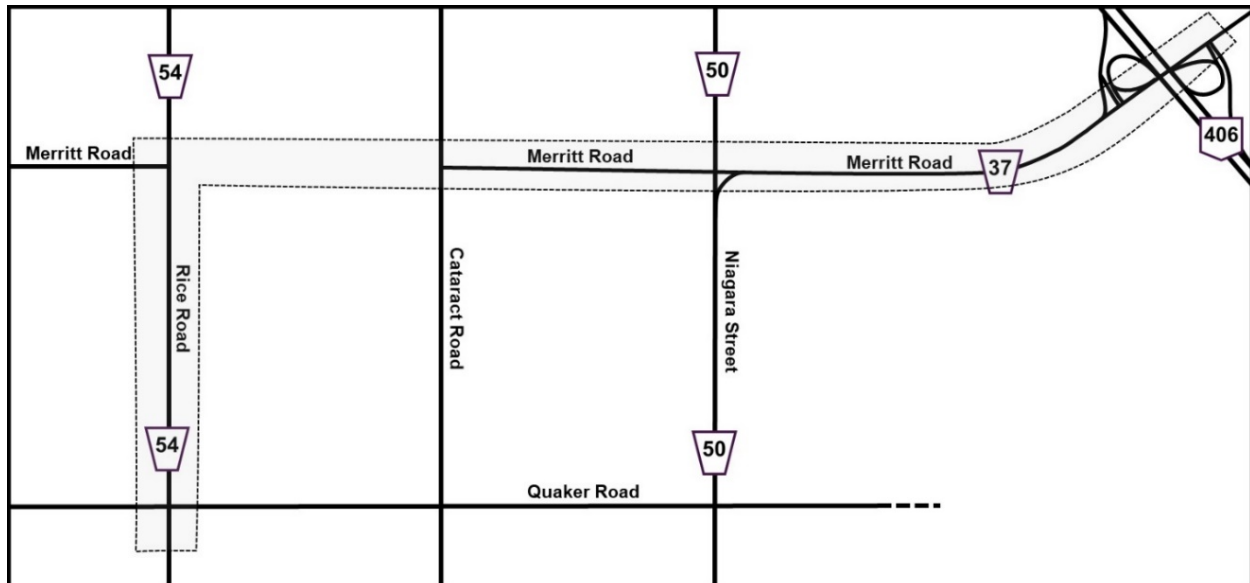
Encl: Notice of Public Information Centre #2

# Notice of Online Public Information Centre #2

## Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

### The Study

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study will aim to identify improvements to the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

## The Process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class EA process, which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This study will address the requirements of Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class EA process. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## You are invited to participate!

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. The Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 was held from March 24, 2021 to April 7, 2021 to introduce the Study. A Summary Report documenting the comments received from PIC #1 and Study Team's responses is provided on the [project webpage](#).

The Niagara Region is now planning to host the **PIC #2** for this study. The purpose of this PIC is to share information about the study, the evaluation of alternative solutions, the preferred solution and obtain input for consideration into the Study. The PIC #2 will be held in an **online format** via project webpage.

You are invited to **attend the Online Presentation on Wednesday, June 9, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask any questions or submit comments. To join the online presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#) on the day of presentation and click on the presentation link. In addition, the information materials related to the PIC #2 will be available on the project webpage starting June 9, 2021, and comments will be received until **June 30, 2021**.

## Stay Connected!

If you would like to receive future notices via email, or if you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Study Team Members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Niagara Region

905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

905-380-3601

[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 31, 2021 11:46 AM  
**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged  
**Cc:** Ryall, Carolyn; Alkarawi, Sulaf; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir  
**Subject:** RE: Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Natural Environment Fieldwork - MCFN FLR Agreement

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Thank you, Maged. Please proceed with execution.

Sincerely,  
Megan.

**Megan DeVries, M.A. (she/her)**  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**  
**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Mobile: 289-527-2763  
<http://www.mncfn.ca>

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---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 31, 2021 8:22 AM  
**To:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Ryall, Carolyn <Carolyn.Ryall@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <Sulaf.Alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Natural Environment Fieldwork - MCFN FLR Agreement

Good Morning Megan

Please find attached a draft participation agreement between MCFN and Niagara Region for upcoming Natural Environment fieldwork (schedule to be determined). The agreement is based on the standard agreement that was agreed to between MCFN and Niagara Region.

Please note that the subject Municipal Class Environmental Assessment project includes only Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (AA) and the draft report has been shared already with MCFN for your review and comments. The Stage 2 AA will be completed during detailed design.

Please review the draft agreement, and let me know if it is acceptable. If acceptable we will move to finalize for execution once we have confirmed the field work dates.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Transportation Systems & Planning

Public Works, Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

Cell: 289-407-6862

[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 4:13 PM  
**To:** Joelle Wiliams; Megan DeVries  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged; van den Burg, Gina; Fawn Sault; Suggett, Jeff; Kelly, Mary K; Maher, Trina; Shams, Anika; Hagedorn, Todd; Hughes, Samantha; Hazell, Megan E  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Natural Environment Fieldwork - MCFN Site Info Request  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_Notice-StudyArea\_01-03-2021.jpg; Declaration Form Covid-19.pdf; EI Fitness For Duty\_Covid19 Medical Pre-Screening Form v2.pdf

Hi Joelle,

Anika's email is currently down, so I am going to cover for her for the time being. 😊 Please see below the requested information and feel free to let us know if you have any questions, or need anything else. We will follow up with you again next week to confirm these dates (given that the weather could be unpredictable).

- **Start Date:** June 30<sup>th</sup> (anticipated). However avian surveys are weather dependent so could occur on June 29<sup>th</sup> – surveys will be completed by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** 1 (maybe 2 depending on weather).
- **Start Time:** 4:30/5 am (avian surveys are completed very early in the morning).
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions.
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** Todd Hagedorn (Phone: 226-979- 2633 | Email: [todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com](mailto:todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com)).
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (avian and wildlife habitat surveys).
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses).
- **Meeting Location Address:** [Quaker Road Public School - Google Maps](#) (333 Quaker Rd, Welland, ON L3C 3G7).
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (Todd Hagedorn).
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** Please see attached the Study Area map. Link to the meeting area is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any Environmental Monitor attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

Sincerely,

Mir



**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

**www.woodplc.com**



---

**From:** Joelle Williams <Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 3:04 PM

**To:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>

**Cc:** Ryall, Carolyn <Carolyn.Ryall@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Fawn Sault <Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>; Maher, Trina <trina.maher@woodplc.com>

**Subject:** (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Natural Environment Fieldwork - MCFN Site Info Request

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hello Anika,

Thank you for your email. Could you please provide the following site information?

Start Date:

# of days anticipated for fieldwork:

Start Time:

Consultant Company:

Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):

Stage of Fieldwork:

Required PPE:

Meeting Location Address:

Size of Field Crew:

Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area: Please attach

COVID-19 Prevention Policy: Please attach

Please note we must have the COVID-19 Policy before an FLR can be deployed. I have attached a copy of our FLR COVID-19 Policy for your records.

I will email you the day before fieldwork begins to let you know if an FLR monitor is available. In the event of a cancellation or other schedule change, please contact me (Joelle Williams) via cell phone (905-870-2918) or email ([joelle.williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:joelle.williams@mncfn.ca)) and CC Megan DeVries ([megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca)).

For communication purposes, please refer to **DOCA Project #2021-0065** for this file.

Thank you kindly,

Joelle Williams  
Field Coordinator



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**  
**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**

4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
P: 905-768-4260 | M: 905-870-2918  
<http://www.mncfn.ca>

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---

**From:** Megan DeVries  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:59 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>  
**Cc:** Ryall, Carolyn <[Carolyn.Ryall@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Ryall@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; van den Burg, Gina <[Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Fawn Sault <[Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Natural Environment Fieldwork - MCFN FLR Agreement

Hi Anika,

Please let us know when you have finalized fieldwork dates. Joelle Williams, our Field Coordinator, will request an specific scheduling information that she needs and let you know the name and contact information for the FLR scheduled to join you.

Regards,  
Megan.

**Megan DeVries, M.A. (she/her)**  
**Archaeological Operations Supervisor**



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**  
**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**

4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Mobile: 289-527-2763  
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---

**From:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:21 PM  
**To:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Ryall, Carolyn <[Carolyn.Ryall@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Ryall@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; van den Burg, Gina <[Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Fawn Sault <[Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Natural Environment Fieldwork - MCFN FLR Agreement

Hi Megan,

We would like to inform you that the field work for natural environment will be taking place next week. This will likely occur on June 30, however we are currently confirming with our staff the exact date and timing and hope to provide this information to you as soon as possible. Please let us know if you have FLR's available to join and who the individual will be (including contact information).

Thanks in advance!  
Anika

**Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP**  
Human Environment Consultant  
Direct: + (905) 568-2929  
Mobile: + (416) 357-2093  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

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---

**From:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 31, 2021 11:46 AM  
**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>  
**Cc:** Ryall, Carolyn <[Carolyn.Ryall@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Ryall@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; van den Burg, Gina <[Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Natural Environment Fieldwork - MCFN FLR Agreement

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Thank you, Maged. Please proceed with execution.

Sincerely,  
Megan.

**Megan DeVries, M.A. (she/her)**

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2021 8:49 AM  
**To:** Megan DeVries; Joelle Wiliams  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged; Suggett, Jeff; Shams, Anika; Maher, Trina  
**Subject:** Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN

Hi Megan,

In addition to the aquatic field work of July 21 referenced in the email below, our staff will also be completing Terrestrial Vegetation and Habitat surveys on July 29. Depending on how things go on July 29, there is a potential that this work may extend to July 30. We will inform you if our staff needs to go out again on July 30.

Please let us know if you have a FLR available to join for the monitoring of this work.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

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---

**From:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 14, 2021 9:19 AM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Joelle Wiliams <Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Maher, Trina <trina.maher@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Aquatic Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN

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Hello Mir,

Thank you for the update. We will add it to our schedule and be in touch with contact information the day before the survey.

Cheers,  
Megan.

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 13, 2021 12:21 PM  
**To:** Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Aquatic Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN

**Correction in date below:**

Hi Joelle,

We would like to inform you that the aquatic habitat assessment field work for Merritt Road – Rice Road Class EA will be taking place next week (tentatively July 21). We are currently confirming with our staff the exact date and timing and hope to provide this information to you as soon as possible. Please let us know if you have a FLR available to join and who the individual will be (including contact information).

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

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Burlington ON L7N 3W5

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## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 4:04 PM  
**To:** Joelle Williams; Megan DeVries  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged; Suggett, Jeff; Shams, Anika; Maher, Trina; Godard, Michael  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Aquatic Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN - July 21, 2021

Hi Joelle – thank you for letting us know. We will submit a field report.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

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---

**From:** Joelle Williams <Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 3:59 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Maher, Trina <trina.maher@woodplc.com>; Godard, Michael <michael.godard@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Aquatic Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN - July 21, 2021

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Hello Mir,

Unfortunately, I am unable to send an FLR for this work tomorrow. Could a field report please be submitted to <https://fdp.mcnf-doca.ca>? When submitting a report, please reference **DOCA Project number 2021-0065**

If you have any questions or issues, please reach out to Megan DeVries at [megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca).

Thank you, and have a lovely evening!

**Joelle Williams**  
**Field Coordinator**





**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**

**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**

4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0

P: 905-768-4260 | M: 905-870-2918

<http://www.mncfn.ca>

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---

**From:** Joelle Williams

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 9:44 AM

**To:** 'Talpur, Mir' <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Godard, Michael <[michael.godard@woodplc.com](mailto:michael.godard@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Aquatic Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN - July 21, 2021

Good morning Mir,

Thank you for your email. I have added this info to our schedule. I will email you this afternoon and let you know if an FLR is available, along with their contact information.

In the event of a cancellation or other schedule change, please contact me (Joelle Williams) via cell phone (905-870-2918) or email ([joelle.williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:joelle.williams@mncfn.ca)) and CC Megan DeVries ([megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca)).

For communication purposes, please refer to DOCA Project **#2021-0065** for this file.

Thank you kindly,

**Joelle Williams**

**Field Coordinator**



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**

**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**

4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0

P: 905-768-4260 | M: 905-870-2918

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---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 8:53 AM  
**To:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Godard, Michael <[michael.godard@woodplc.com](mailto:michael.godard@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Aquatic Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN - July 21, 2021

Hi Megan and Joelle,

Further to our email exchange below, our staff will be going out tomorrow (July 21) to complete the aquatic habitat assessment fieldwork in support of the Merritt Road-Rice Road Class EA. I have provided specifics below. Could you share the contact information of the FLR?

- **Start Date:** July 21, 2021
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** One
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site between 8:30 am and 9:00 am
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions.
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** Michael Godard, Senior Fisheries Biologist | 519-589-2645 | [Michael.godard@woodplc.com](mailto:Michael.godard@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (aquatic habitat assessment).
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses).
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up. Here's the google maps link to that general location: <https://www.google.com/maps/@43.0288237,-79.2710447,78m/data=!3m1!1e3>
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (Michael Godard).
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** Please see attached the Study Area map. A separate map and link to the meeting location is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any Environmental Monitor attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must [review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form](#) and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mir

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 29, 2021 4:20 PM  
**To:** Joelle Williams; Megan DeVries  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged; Suggett, Jeff; Shams, Anika; Maher, Trina; Martin, Reuven; Hughes, Samantha; Hagedorn, Todd  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN - July 30

Thanks, Joelle.

I have still not heard from Reuven. If he does need to go out again tomorrow, we will make sure the field reports for both days get submitted.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Joelle Williams <Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 29, 2021 4:17 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Maher, Trina <trina.maher@woodplc.com>; Martin, Reuven <reuven.martin@woodplc.com>; Hughes, Samantha <samantha.hughes@woodplc.com>; Hagedorn, Todd <todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN - July 30

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hello Mir,

I am not sure if the crew will be returning tomorrow. If the crew does return, I am unable to send an FLR for this work. Could a field report please be submitted to <https://fdp.mcnf-doca.ca>? When submitting a report, please reference **DOCA Project number 2021-0065**

If you have any questions or issues, please reach out to Megan DeVries at [megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca).

Thank you kindly, and have a lovely evening!

**Joelle Williams**  
Field Coordinator



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**  
**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
P: 905-768-4260 | M: 905-870-2918  
<http://www.mncfn.ca>

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---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 29, 2021 10:27 AM  
**To:** Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>; Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Martin, Reuven <[reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)>; Hughes, Samantha <[samantha.hughes@woodplc.com](mailto:samantha.hughes@woodplc.com)>; Hagedorn, Todd <[todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com](mailto:todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN - July 30

Hi Joelle,

Thank you for the follow-up. I have messaged Reuven about this, and will let you know, once I have received a response from him.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**  
Environmental Planner  
Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 29, 2021 10:20 AM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Martin, Reuven <[reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)>; Hughes, Samantha <[samantha.hughes@woodplc.com](mailto:samantha.hughes@woodplc.com)>; Hagedorn, Todd <[todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com](mailto:todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN - July 30

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good morning Mir,

At your earliest convenience, would you please let me know if this work will continue tomorrow?

Thank you kindly,

**Joelle Williams**  
**Field Coordinator**



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**

**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**

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**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 3:34 PM  
**To:** Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>; Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Martin, Reuven <[reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)>; Hughes, Samantha <[samantha.hughes@woodplc.com](mailto:samantha.hughes@woodplc.com)>; Hagedorn, Todd <[todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com](mailto:todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN Field Report - July 29

Hi Joelle – thank you for letting me know. We will submit the online field report for tomorrow's work.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

**www.woodplc.com**



---

**From:** Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 3:30 PM

**To:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Martin, Reuven <[reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)>; Hughes, Samantha <[samantha.hughes@woodplc.com](mailto:samantha.hughes@woodplc.com)>; Hagedorn, Todd <[todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com](mailto:todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN Field Report - July 29

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hello Mir,

Unfortunately, I am unable to send an FLR for this work tomorrow. Could a field report please be submitted to <https://fdp.mcnf-doca.ca>? When submitting a report, please reference **DOCA Project number 2021-0065**

If you have any questions or issues, please reach out to Megan DeVries at [megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca).

Thank you, and have a lovely evening!

**Joelle Williams**

**Field Coordinator**



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**

**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**

4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0

P: 905-768-4260 | M: 905-870-2918

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---

**From:** Joelle Williams

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 1:11 PM

**To:** 'Talpur, Mir' <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Martin, Reuven <[reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)>; Hughes, Samantha <[samantha.hughes@woodplc.com](mailto:samantha.hughes@woodplc.com)>; Hagedorn, Todd <[todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com](mailto:todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN - July 29

Hello Mir,

Thank you for your email and for including all of the required site information. I appreciate your help!

I will be in touch this afternoon to let you know if an FLR is available.

Kindly,

**Joelle Williams**  
**Field Coordinator**



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**  
**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
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---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 28, 2021 12:06 PM  
**To:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Martin, Reuven <[reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)>; Hughes, Samantha <[samantha.hughes@woodplc.com](mailto:samantha.hughes@woodplc.com)>; Hagedorn, Todd <[todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com](mailto:todd.hagedorn@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN

Hi Megan and Joelle,

Further to our email exchange below, our staff will be going out tomorrow (July 29) to complete the Terrestrial Vegetation and Habitat Surveys in support of Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA. Depending on how things go tomorrow, there is a potential that this work may extend to July 30. We will let you know in that case.



I have provided specifics of tomorrow's fieldwork below. Could you share the contact information of the FLR?

- **Start Date:** July 29, 2021
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** One (potentially two)
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site around 8:00 am
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** Reuven Martin | 226-979-4105 | [reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (Terrestrial Vegetation and Habitat Surveys)
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses)
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up, and [click here for a google maps link to that general location](#).
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (Reuven Martin)
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** Please see attached the Study Area map. A separate map and link to the meeting location is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any Environmental Monitor attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

The logo for Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, featuring the word "wood." in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font.

---

**From:** Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2021 11:50 AM

**To:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** (2021-0065) Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hello Mir,

Thank you for your email. I have added this work to our schedule. I will email you the day before fieldwork begins and let you know if an FLR is available, along with their contact information.

In the event of a cancellation or other schedule change, please contact me (Joelle Williams) via cell phone (905-870-2918) or email ([joelle.williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:joelle.williams@mncfn.ca)) and CC Megan DeVries ([megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca)).

Thank you kindly,

**Joelle Williams**  
**Field Coordinator**



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**

**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**

4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0

P: 905-768-4260 | M: 905-870-2918

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---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2021 8:49 AM

**To:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Terrestrial Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN

Hi Megan,

In addition to the aquatic field work of July 21 referenced in the email below, our staff will also be completing Terrestrial Vegetation and Habitat surveys on July 29. Depending on how things go on July 29, there is a potential that this work may extend to July 30. We will inform you if our staff needs to go out again on July 30.

Please let us know if you have a FLR available to join for the monitoring of this work.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 14, 2021 9:19 AM

**To:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Aquatic Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hello Mir,

Thank you for the update. We will add it to our schedule and be in touch with contact information the day before the survey.

Cheers,  
Megan.

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 13, 2021 12:21 PM

**To:** Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** Merritt Rd-Rice Rd - Aquatic Habitat Assessment Fieldwork - MCFN

**Correction in date below:**

Hi Joelle,

We would like to inform you that the aquatic habitat assessment field work for Merritt Road – Rice Road Class EA will be taking place next week (tentatively July 21). We are currently confirming with our staff the exact date and timing and hope to provide this information to you as soon as possible. Please let us know if you have a FLR available to join and who the individual will be (including contact information).

## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** Shams, Aniq  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 12:28 PM  
**To:** Adrian.Blake@mncfn.ca  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries; Talpur, Mir; Suggett, Jeff; van den Burg, Gina; Elmadhoon, Maged; Kelly, Mary K; Maher, Trina; McGill, John  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Adrian,

Thank you for letting us know! We will continue to provide you with updates as the Study progresses.

On a side note – my email was down for a few weeks. However, it seems to be up and running again! Apologies for the inconvenience this may have caused.

Thanks again,  
Aniq

### Aniq Shams, RPP, MCIP

Human Environment Consultant  
Pronouns – She/Her/Hers  
Direct: + (905) 568-2929  
Mobile: + (416) 357-2093  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Adrian Blake <[Adrian.Blake@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adrian.Blake@mncfn.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 12:10 PM  
**To:** Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; McGill, John <[john.mcgill@woodplc.com](mailto:john.mcgill@woodplc.com)>; Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good morning Jeff,

Thank you for providing this Stage 1 AA for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road). The person who first provided us with the report via email no longer seems to have a valid email address. You were cc'd on that original email and I am hoping you can help make sure our reply reaches the people whom it concerns.

At this time MCFN-DOCA has no concerns over the contents of the report or the recommendations made within it. We look forward to participating with you as the project progresses.

Regards,  
**Adrian Blake, M.S.**  
**Field Archaeologist**



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**  
**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
M: 905-979-3862  
<http://www.mncfn.ca>

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---

**From:** Megan DeVries  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 10:20 AM  
**To:** Adrian Blake <[Adrian.Blake@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adrian.Blake@mncfn.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Aniqa's email keeps bouncing lately, so let me know if it does or doesn't work for you and we'll figure out whom else to send it to.

Megan.

---

**From:** Shams, Aniqa <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 12:55 PM  
**To:** Fawn Sault <[Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; van den Burg, Gina <[Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; McGill, John <[john.mcgill@woodplc.com](mailto:john.mcgill@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Fawn,

We are pleased to share the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region. The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link.

Download Link:  [Stage 1 AA & CH Assessment](#)

We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by May 22, 2021.

Thanks,  
Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**  
Human Environment Consultant  
Direct: + (905) 568-2929  
Mobile: + (416) 357-2093  
**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2021 4:25 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir; Fawn Sault; Elmadhoon, Maged; Suggett, Jeff; Maher, Trina; Martin, Reuven; Hughes, Samantha  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt and Rice Road - MCFN FLR - Sept 16

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Anika,

I understand from Hannah that fieldwork will be continuing into tomorrow. She will therefore rejoin the team at 8:30am.

Sincerely,  
Megan.

---

**From:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2021 3:09 PM  
**To:** Megan DeVries <Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca>; Joelle Williams <Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Fawn Sault <Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Maher, Trina <trina.maher@woodplc.com>; Martin, Reuven <reuven.martin@woodplc.com>; Hughes, Samantha <samantha.hughes@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt and Rice Road - MCFN FLR - Sept 15

Hi Megan,

The start time for Sept 15 will be at 11 am.

Thanks,  
Anika

### Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP

Human Environment Consultant  
Pronouns – She/Her/Hers  
Mobile: + (416) 357-2093  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2021 2:58 PM

**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>; Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Fawn Sault <[Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Merritt and Rice Road - MCFN FLR - Sept 15

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Anika,

The following FLR will be onsite tomorrow. **Can you please confirm the start time?**

Hannah LaForme (905-993-0062)

In the event of a cancellation or other scheduling change, please contact me via email at [megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca).

Thank you,  
Megan.

---

**From:** Megan DeVries

**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 3:00 PM

**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>; Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Fawn Sault <[Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** (2021-0065) Merritt and Rice Road - MCFN Report - Sept 14

Hi Anika,

Unfortunately, there is no FLR available tomorrow for this fieldwork. Please complete a daily report using our online submission portal (<https://fdp.mcnf-doca.ca/fdp-doca-enviro-home/enviro-con-sub-search>) using project number 2021-0065.

Thank you,  
Megan.

**Megan DeVries (she/her)**

**Archaeological Operations Supervisor**



**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**

**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**

4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0



Mobile: 289-527-2763

<http://www.mncfn.ca>

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**From:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 11:08 AM

**To:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; Joelle Williams <[Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca](mailto:Joelle.Williams@mncfn.ca)>; Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Fawn Sault <[Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** Niagara Region: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) - Natural Env Field Work DOCA Project Number 2021-0065

Hi Megan, Joelle and Todd,

We have scheduled some natural environment field work for this week. Here are the details for the upcoming field work -

- **Start Date:** September 15, 2021
- **End Date:** September 16, 2021
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** Two days
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site at 11 am on Sept 15. Staff will confirm arrival time for Sept 16.
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** Reuven Martin | 226-979-4105 | [reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (Vegetation Surveys)
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses)
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up, and [click here for a google maps link to that general location](#).
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (Reuven Martin) and FLRs from MCFN and HDI
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** Please see attached the Study Area map. A separate map and link to the meeting location is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any Environmental Monitor attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

Please note that the HDI environmental monitors will also be on site.

Let us know if you will have field liaisons available to participate in this field work this week. If you have any other questions, please let me know.

Thanks!

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**



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## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 8:58 AM  
**To:** fawn.sault@mncfn.ca  
**Cc:** Megan DeVries; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Wilson, Josh; Siyam, Waad; Esmaeeli, Hamed  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 3-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** MCFN\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_CoverLetter\_PIC 3.pdf; IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_Notice-PIC#3\_04-11-2021 (Website).pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Fawn Sault, Consultation Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #3.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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November 15, 2021

Fawn Sault  
Consultation Manager  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

**Attention: Fawn Sault**

SENT VIA EMAIL

**RE: Notice of Online Public Information Centre #3 - Schedule 'C'  
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37)  
and Rice Rd. (RR 54) Pelham, Thorold and Welland**

Dear Ms. Sault,

The Niagara Region is pleased to provide the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) with an update on this Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study. The Class EA Study was initiated in January 2021 to identify improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road in the Town of Pelham, and in the Cities of Thorold and Welland.

Consultation with the Indigenous Nations is a key element of the Class EA process and input is invited for incorporation into the planning and design of the project. A Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary was sent to the MCFN on January 14, 2021. A Notice for the Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 to introduce the Study was shared with the MCFN on March 5, 2021, and the PIC #1 Online Presentation was held on March 24, 2021. A Notice of the PIC #2 to share preferred solution was shared with the MCFN on May 26, 2021, and this PIC was held on June 9, 2021. The Niagara Region has now completed Phase 3 of the Class EA process for the project and has identified the preliminary preferred design for the road improvements.

A third PIC is planned to be held **Online** to present the preliminary preferred design for the road improvements. As part of the PIC, an **Online** Presentation will be held on **Wednesday, December 1, 2021**, starting at **6:00 p.m.** The Niagara Region is inviting the MCFN to participate in the PIC #3. If MCFN would like to attend the Online Presentation, please visit the [project webpage](http://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37). Access to the Online Presentation will be available on the scheduled date and time of the PIC #3. Information materials for the PIC #3 will be available on the [project webpage](http://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37) starting **December 1, 2021**, and comments will be received until **December 16, 2021**. The project webpage is at: <https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Alternatively, the Niagara Region would welcome the opportunity to meet and present this information to the MCFN and discuss any comments that MCFN may have about the Study. The Niagara Region is also seeking information about the potential for the Project to affect Indigenous Nations and Treaty Rights. If the MCFN would like to meet to discuss this project, please contact the undersigned.

Please refer to the attached Notice of Public Information Centre #3 for more information.

Sincerely,



**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Niagara Region

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Cc:

Megan DeVries ([megan.devries@mncfn.ca](mailto:megan.devries@mncfn.ca))

Jeff Suggett, Wood ([Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com))

Trina Maher, Wood ([trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com))

Mir Ahsan Talpur ([mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com))

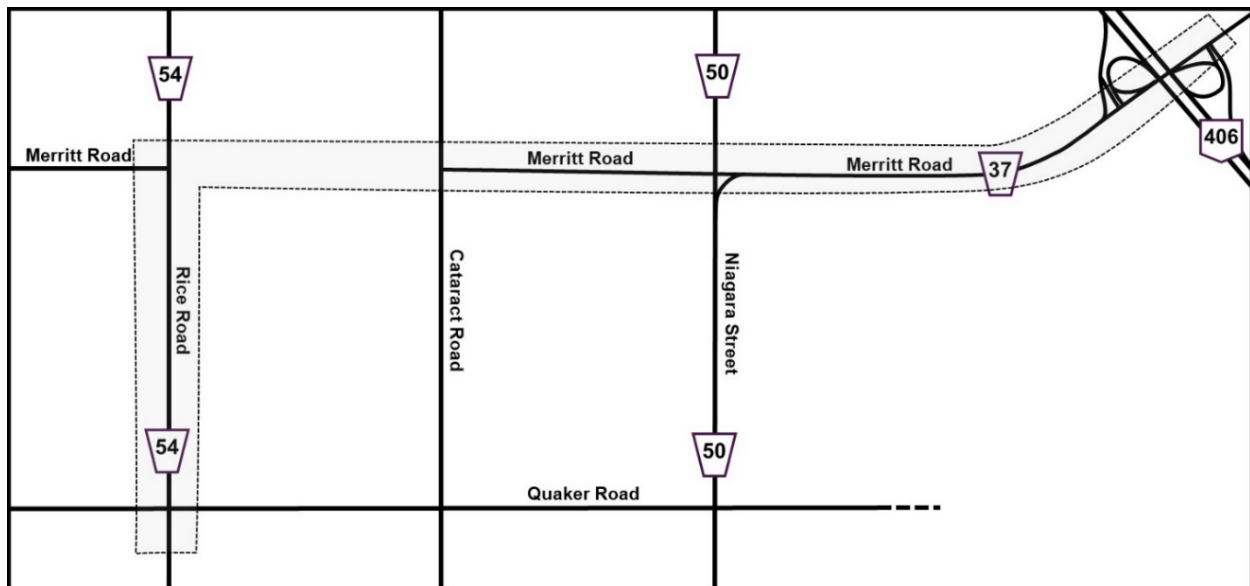
Enclosed: Notice of Public Information Centre #3

# Notice of Online Public Information Centre #3

## Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

### The Study

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study aims to identify improvements to the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study also aims to address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

## The Process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class EA process, which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This study will address the requirements of Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class EA process. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## You are invited to participate!

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. The Public Information Centre #1 was held from March 24, 2021, to April 7, 2021, and the Public Information Centre #2 was held from June 9, 2021, to June 30, 2021. Materials related to these events, including the summary reports documenting the comments received and Study Team's responses are available on the [project webpage](#).

The Niagara Region is now planning to host the third and last **Public Information Centre #3** for this study to share the preliminary preferred design for the road improvements. This event will be held in an **online format** via project webpage.

You are invited to **attend the Online Presentation on Wednesday, December 1, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask any questions or submit comments. To join the online presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#) on the day of presentation and click on the presentation link. In addition, the information materials related to the Public Information Centre #3 will be available on the project webpage starting December 1, 2021, and comments will be received until **December 16, 2021**.

## Stay Connected!

If you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Study Team Members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
905-380-3601

[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.



## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** DOCA Admin <DOCA.Admin@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** Shams, Aniq; Mark LaForme  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged; Khan, Muhammad; Talpur, Mir; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Wilson, Josh; Siyam, Waad; Esmaeeli, Hamed  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (MCFN)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Afternoon Aniq,

For future reference, could you please send notifications to my Consultation Email [Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca)

Thank you

**Abby LaForme,**  
**Administrative Support**



**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**  
**Department of Consultation & Accommodation (DOCA)**  
**4065 Highway 6, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0**  
**Ph: (905) 768 – 4260**  
**Website: <http://mncfn.ca/doca/>**

---

**From:** Shams, Aniq [mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 10:43 AM  
**To:** DOCA Admin <DOCA.Admin@mncfn.ca>; Mark LaForme <Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Wilson, Josh <Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca>; Siyam, Waad <Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca>; Esmaeeli, Hamed <Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (MCFN)

Hi Abby and Mark,

We are currently planning fieldwork for targeted Species at Risk Surveys on May 6, 2022 and May 20, 2022 for the Merritt Road and Rice Road Municipal Class EA. We will provide additional details on meeting location and timing closer to the fieldwork date. Please let us know if a Field Liaison Representative from Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation would be interested and available to participate in this fieldwork.

Thank you,  
Aniq

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2022 1:12 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir  
**Cc:** Mark LaForme; Elmadhoon, Maged; Khan, Muhammad; Shams, Anika  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (MCFN)  
**Attachments:** 2021-0065 FLR Participation Agreemen\_Niagara Region-MCFN-May 2022\_SIGNED\_FINAL.pdf; 2021-0065 DOCA-Archaeological Review Agreement-Niagara Region-MCFN-Merritt Rd-May 2022\_SIGNED\_FINAL.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Afternoon Mir,

Thank you for sending those along. I have attached the fully executed agreements for your records.

Have a great weekend!

Regards,

Adam LaForme (he/him)  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>  
**Sent:** May 13, 2022 11:07 AM  
**To:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Mark LaForme <Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <maged.elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (MCFN)

Hello Adam,

My colleague, Anika, had forwarded me MCFN's agreements for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd Class EA project. She's off this week, so I am taking this opportunity to share with you the attached agreements that have been signed by the Niagara Region.

If you could please sign these and send us back the final agreements for our records, that would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

**www.woodplc.com**

**wood.**

---

**From:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 10:13 AM

**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Cc:** Abby LaForme <[Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (MCFN)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Morning Anika,

MCFN appreciates you reaching out to notify us about the Natural Environment Field Investigations. MCFN would like to continue to participate on this project, if it extends past tomorrow species at risk survey. Our previous agreements have expired, I have attached our 2022 agreements for your review, if you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Adam LaForme (he/him)

Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

---

**From:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 9:28 AM

**To:** Abby LaForme <[Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>;

Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Wilson, Josh <[Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca)>; Mark LaForme <[Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Siyam, Waad <[Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca)>; Esmaeeli, Hamed <[Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca)>; Martin, Reuven <[reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (MCFN)

Hi Abby,

As mentioned in the email below, targeted Species at Risk Surveys on May 6, 2022 and May 20, 2022. The details for the May 6, 2022 field work are provided below:

- **Start Date:** May 6, 2022
- **End Date:** May 6, 2022
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** One day
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site at 9 am.
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** Reuven Martin | 226-979-4105 | [reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (targeted Species at Risk Surveys)
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses)
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up, and [click here for a google maps link to that general location](#).
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (Reuven Martin)
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** Please see attached the Study Area map. A separate map and link to the meeting location is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any field liaisons attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must [review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form](#) and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

Please let us know if any field liaisons will be available to participate in the fieldwork. If they are, please provide their name and contact information.

If you have any other questions, please let me know.

Thanks!

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

---

**From:** Shams, Aniq

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 10:43 AM

**To:** DOCA Admin <[DOCA.Admin@mncfn.ca](mailto:DOCA.Admin@mncfn.ca)>; Mark LaForme <[Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Wilson, Josh <[Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca)>; Siyam, Waad <[Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca)>; Esmaeeli, Hamed <[Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (MCFN)

Hi Abby and Mark,

We are currently planning fieldwork for targeted Species at Risk Surveys on May 6, 2022 and May 20, 2022 for the Merritt Road and Rice Road Municipal Class EA. We will provide additional details on meeting location and timing closer to the fieldwork date. Please let us know if a Field Liaison Representative from Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation would be interested and available to participate in this fieldwork.

Thank you,  
Aniq

**Aniq Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

The logo for Wood Plc, featuring the word "wood." in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font.

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**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 8:58 AM

**To:** [fawn.sault@mncfn.ca](mailto:fawn.sault@mncfn.ca)

**Cc:** Megan DeVries <[Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca](mailto:Megan.DeVries@mncfn.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Wilson, Josh <[Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca)>; Siyam, Waad <[Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca)>; Esmaeeli, Hamed <[Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca)>

**Subject:** Notice of PIC 3-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Fawn Sault, Consultation Manager,**

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 2:42 PM  
**To:** Abby LaForme  
**Cc:** Mark LaForme; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Khan, Muhammad; Shams, Anika; Dunn, David; Hughes, Samantha  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (MCFN)  
**Attachments:** MeetingLocation-Merritt Rd-Rice Rd-TerrestrialFieldwork (Sept 14-16).jpg; Declaration Form Covid-19.pdf; EI Fitness For Duty\_Covid19 Medical Pre-Screening Form v2.pdf

Hi Abby,

Further to the emails below, the details for tomorrow's Species at Risk surveys for Merritt Road-Rice Road EA are provided below. Please let us know if any field liaisons from MCFN will be available to participate in the fieldwork. If they are, please provide their name and contact information.

- **Start Date:** May 20, 2022
- **End Date:** May 20, 2022
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** One day
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site at 9 am.
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** David Dunn | Terrestrial Ecologist | (647) 616-6088 | [david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (targeted Species at Risk Surveys)
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses)
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up, and [click here for a google maps link to that general location](#).
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (David Dunn)
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** A map and link to the meeting location is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any Environmental Monitor attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 11:11 AM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir  
**Cc:** Popkin, Peter; Downey, Jordan; Dunn, David; Shams, Anika; Khan, Muhammad  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Morning Mir,

Thank you for the site information. Please contact me if there are any changes or cancellations. I will contact you tomorrow afternoon to let you know which FLR will be joining you.

Regards,

Adam LaForme (he/him)  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>  
**Sent:** June 16, 2022 10:41 AM  
**To:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@woodplc.com>; Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@woodplc.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

Hi Adam,

Please see below and the attached map.

Sincerely,

Mir



**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

**www.woodplc.com**



---

**From:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 1:38 PM

**To:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Afternoon Mir,

Thank you for sending the project notification.

At your earliest convenience please fill out the following site information

Start Date: June 20, 2022 (Pending weather conditions - Jordan Downey will confirm)

Duration: Three days

Start Time: 7:30 am

Consultant Company: Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions

Field Director(s): Jordan Downey, Ph.D. (Archaeology Project Manager)

Cell Phone(s): (437) 328-1681

Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Assessment: Borden Number (if applicable):

Required PPE: Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Bug repellent

Meeting Location Address: [Merritt Road / Rice Road intersection](#) (Please do not block private driveway entrance)

Size of Field Crew: Four (4)

A map outlining the site and parking area: Please see attached and the link above.

COVID-19 Prevention Policy:

DOCA project # 2021-0065

We look forward to working with you on this project.

Regards,

Adam LaForme (he/him)

Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** June 15, 2022 11:55 AM  
**To:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN)

Hi Adam,

I received an automated message that Mariah is off this week. I was hoping that you will be advising in Mariah's absence.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**  
Environmental Planner  
Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974  
**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**



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**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 11:39 AM  
**To:** [field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca); Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Abby LaForme <[Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Mark LaForme <[Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN)

Hi Mariah,

Further to the email correspondence below, we would also like to inform you that the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Merritt Road (from Rice Road to Cataract Road) is currently planned for June 20-22 (weather permitting). Peter or Jordan (copied here) will share the exact time and meeting location on Friday this week, and will also confirm at that time if plans change for June 20 due to rain forecast.

Could you please confirm if an FLR from MCFN would be available to monitor this work, and share their contact information?

I have provided contact information of the our director for this project below:

Jordan Downey, Ph.D.  
Archaeology Project Manager  
Mobile: +1 (437) 328-1681  
Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**  
Environmental Planner  
Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974  
**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**

The logo for Wood Plc, featuring the word "wood." in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font.

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**From:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 10:13 AM

**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Abby LaForme <[Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Mark LaForme <[Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Morning Anika,

Thank you for the advance notice, we will have FLRs available. When you have exact dates please contact our [@Field Coordinator](#) Mariah Sault who will schedule and deploy FLRs.

Regards,

Adam LaForme (he/him)  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

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**From:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Sent:** May 26, 2022 10:04 AM

**To:** Abby LaForme <[Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

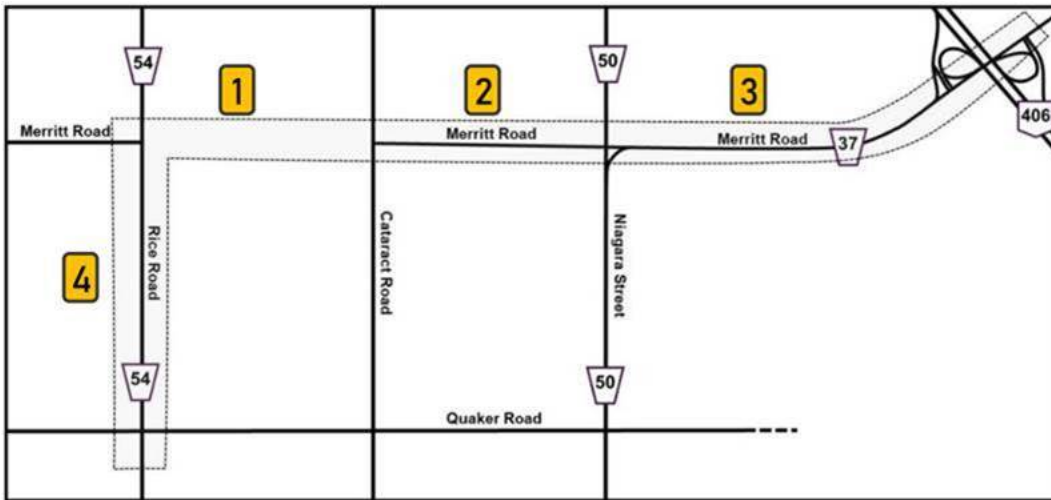
**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Mark LaForme <[Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Subject:** Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN)

Hi Abby and Adam,

We're reaching out to notify you of the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, planned along Merritt Road unopened road allowance (Segment 1) (see the map below) for the Merritt Road and Rice Road Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. We plan to complete this work either the week of June 6 or June 13 and will last for approximately three (3) days. Please note that this is an advanced notice and we will confirm exact dates as we get closer to the days of the fieldwork. We will also be inviting Six Nations of the Grand River and Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council (as represented by the Haudenosaunee Development Institute) to participate in the fieldwork.

Please let us know if your FLRs would be available to join this fieldwork.



Best regards,  
Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

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## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 17, 2022 3:43 PM  
**To:** Popkin, Peter; Field Coordinator  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan; Dunn, David; Shams, Aniq; Khan, Muhammad; Talpur, Mir; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Peter,

Thank you for letting me know.

Regards,

Adam LaForme (he/him)  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

---

**From:** Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@woodplc.com>  
**Sent:** June 17, 2022 3:19 PM  
**To:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>; Field Coordinator <field.coordinator@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@woodplc.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@woodplc.com>; Shams, Aniq <aniqa.shams@woodplc.com>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

Thanks Adam,

It has been brought to my attention that Tuesday 21 June 2022 is National Indigenous Peoples' Day. In light of this, we will not be completing archaeology on Tuesday 21 June 2022. The project dates will be Monday 20 June 2022, Wednesday 22 June 2022, and Thursday 23 June 2022.

regards,  
Peter

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA**  
Associate Archaeologist  
Environment and Infrastructure Solutions  
Pronouns – He/Him  
Mobile: +1 (905) 329-6456  
[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 17, 2022 3:08 PM  
**To:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Aniq <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Afternoon Peter,

Thank you for the deployment information. Lovegrove, Jodie 289-969-9294 will be joining the crew on Merritt Rd, Monday June 20th.

If there any changes or cancellations please contact me.

Thank you,

Adam LaForme (he/him)  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

---

**From:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** June 17, 2022 2:59 PM  
**To:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Aniq <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir



<[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

Hi Adam,

I'm writing on behalf of Mir and Anika to confirm that the Stage 2 AA test pit survey for the Merritt Road MCEA project will proceed on Monday of next week (20 June, 2022). Please see information below and mapping attached.

Start Date: June 20, 2022 (Pending weather conditions - Jordan Downey will confirm)

Duration: Three days

Start Time: 7:30 am

Consultant Company: Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions

Field Director(s): Jordan Downey, Ph.D. (Archaeology Project Manager)

Cell Phone(s): (437) 328-1681

Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Assessment: Borden Number (if applicable): NA

Required PPE: Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Bug repellent, sun screen, face mask (if social distancing cannot be maintained)

Meeting Location Address: [Merritt Road / Rice Road intersection](#) (Please do not block private driveway entrance)

Size of Field Crew: Four (4)

A map outlining the site and parking area: Please see attached and the link above.

DOCA project # 2021-0065

Please note that Jordan will be the primary contact from Wood for Monday.

regards,  
Peter

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCifA**

Associate Archaeologist

Environment and Infrastructure Solutions

Pronouns – He/Him

Mobile: +1 (905) 329-6456

[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

The logo for Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions, featuring the word "wood." in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font.

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 10:41 AM

**To:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 3:19 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir; Field Coordinator  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan; Popkin, Peter; Dunn, David; Shams, Aniq; Khan, Muhammad; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Afternoon Mir,

Lovegrove, Jodie 289-969-9294 will be joining the crew tomorrow.

Thank you,

Adam LaForme (he/him)  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>  
**Sent:** June 23, 2022 3:09 PM  
**To:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>; Field Coordinator <field.coordinator@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@woodplc.com>; Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@woodplc.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@woodplc.com>; Shams, Aniq <aniqa.shams@woodplc.com>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

Good Afternoon Adam,

I wanted to inform you that the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA will restart tomorrow. I wanted to inquire if Jodie or another Monitor from MCFN will be able to join our staff to monitor the fieldwork?

Please note that our staff have encountered significant amounts of ticks in the work area. We recommend that the field monitor wear tick repellent clothing as a safety precaution.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

**www.woodplc.com**

**wood.**

---

**From:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Friday, June 17, 2022 3:43 PM

**To:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Aniq <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Peter,

Thank you for letting me know.

Regards,

Adam LaForme (he/him)

Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 8:54 AM  
**To:** 'Adam LaForme'  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan; Popkin, Peter; Dunn, David; Khan, Muhammad; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Talpur, Mir; Field Coordinator  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065 - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

Hi Adam,

We wanted to notify you of upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment fieldwork occurring for the Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (DOCA project # 2021-0065). This will be a continuation of previous Stage 2 Archaeological fieldwork that has already occurred on this project. The fieldwork will be taking place on **October 3, 2022**. Please do let us know if MCFN is available to participate.

We will provide additional details closer to the date.

Best regards,  
Anika



### Anika Shams

Human Environment Consultant  
MCIP, RPP  
*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&I Canada Limited  
2020 Winston Park Dr #700  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6H 6X7 Canada

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

---

**From:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 3:19 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Field Coordinator <field.coordinator@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@woodplc.com>; Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@woodplc.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** Shams, Aniq  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 8:16 AM  
**To:** Adam LaForme  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan; Popkin, Peter; Dunn, David; Khan, Muhammad; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Talpur, Mir; Field Coordinator; Cary, Henry; Kwiatkowski, Monika D  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065 - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork  
**Attachments:** Merritt Meeting Location.pdf

Hi Adam,

Following the email sent on Sept 22 notifying MCFN of the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological fieldwork, we wanted to provide additional details for the fieldwork.

Start Date: **October 3, 2022**

Duration: One, 10-hour day

Start Time: 8:30 am (0830)

Consultant Company: WSP E&I Canada Limited (Previously Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions)

Field Director(s): Jordan Downey, Ph.D. (Archaeology Project Manager)

Cell Phone(s): (437) 328-1681

Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Assessment: Borden Number (if applicable): NA

Required PPE: Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Bug repellent, sun screen, face mask (if social distancing cannot be maintained)

Meeting Location Address: [Merritt Road / Rice Road intersection](#) (Please do not block private driveway entrance)

Size of Field Crew: Four

A map outlining the site and parking area: Please see attached and the link above.

Please let us know if a monitor is available to participate, and please share their contact information.

Best regards,  
Aniq



### Aniq Shams

Human Environment Consultant

MCIP, RPP

*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&I Canada Limited

2020 Winston Park Dr #700

Oakville, Ontario

---

**From:** Shams, Aniq

**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 8:54 AM

**To:** 'Adam LaForme' <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>

**Cc:** Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@woodplc.com>; Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@woodplc.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@woodplc.com>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Field Coordinator <field.coordinator@mncfn.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065 - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

Hi Adam,

We wanted to notify you of upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment fieldwork occurring for the Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (DOCA project # 2021-0065). This will be a continuation of previous Stage 2 Archaeological fieldwork that has already occurred on this project. The fieldwork will be taking place on **October 3, 2022**. Please do let us know if MCFN is available to participate.

We will provide additional details closer to the date.

Best regards,  
Aniq



**Aniq Shams**

Human Environment Consultant

MCIP, RPP

*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&I Canada Limited  
2020 Winston Park Dr #700  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6H 6X7 Canada

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

---

**From:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 3:19 PM

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Field Coordinator <field.coordinator@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 2:56 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika; Adam LaForme  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan; Popkin, Peter; Dunn, David; Khan, Muhammad; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Talpur, Mir; Cary, Henry; Kwiatkowski, Monika D  
**Subject:** (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Aanii Anika,

The following FLR will be onsite Monday.

Matt M LaForme (905-993-0077)

In the event of a cancellation or other schedule change, please contact me (Joelle Williams) via cell phone (905-870-2918) or email ([field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)) and CC Adam LaForme ([Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)).

Have a lovely day.

**Joelle Williams (she/her)**

**Field Coordinator**



**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**  
**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
**Web:** [www.mncfn.ca](http://www.mncfn.ca)  
**Office Phone:** (905) 768-4260  
**Cell Phone:** (905) 870-2918

---

**From:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@wsp.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 2:41 PM  
**To:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@wsp.com>; Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@wsp.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@wsp.com>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@wsp.com>; Field Coordinator <field.coordinator@mncfn.ca>; Cary, Henry <henry.c.cary@wsp.com>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <monika.kwiatkowski@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065 - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork



Hi Adam,

We wanted to follow-up on the notification of Stage Archaeological fieldwork outlined below. The fieldwork will be occurring on **October 3, 2022** – please let us know at your earliest convenience if a monitor is available to participate, and please share their contact information.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Best regards,  
Aniqa



**Aniqa Shams**

Human Environment Consultant  
MCIP, RPP  
*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&I Canada Limited  
2020 Winston Park Dr #700  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6H 6X7 Canada

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

---

**From:** Shams, Aniqa

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 8:16 AM

**To:** Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

**Cc:** Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>; Cary, Henry <[henry.cary@woodplc.com](mailto:henry.cary@woodplc.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065 - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

Hi Adam,

Following the email sent on Sept 22 notifying MCFN of the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological fieldwork, we wanted to provide additional details for the fieldwork.

Start Date: **October 3, 2022**

Duration: One, 10-hour day

Start Time: 8:30 am (0830)

Consultant Company: WSP E&I Canada Limited (Previously Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions)

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Field Coordinator <field.coordinator@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 3, 2022 4:27 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika  
**Cc:** Adam LaForme  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Aanii Anika,

The following FLR will be onsite tomorrow.

Mariah Sault (289-321-1882)

In the event of a cancellation or other schedule change, please contact me (Joelle Williams) via cell phone (905-870-2918) or email ([field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)) and CC Adam LaForme ([Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)).

Have a lovely day.

**Joelle Williams (she/her)**  
**Field Coordinator**



**Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)**  
**Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)**  
**4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0**  
**Web: [www.mncfn.ca](http://www.mncfn.ca)**  
**Office Phone: (905) 768-4260**  
**Cell Phone: (905) 870-2918**

---

**From:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@wsp.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 3:00 PM  
**To:** Field Coordinator <field.coordinator@mncfn.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

Thanks so much for getting back to us!

Anika

## Talpur, Mir

---

**From:** Marie-Annick Prevost <Marie-Annick.Prevost@mncfn.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 16, 2022 4:51 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir; Khan, Muhammad; Cary, Henry; Elmadhoon, Maged; Adam LaForme  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA for Segment 1 (MCFN)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Aanii Anika,

On behalf of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Department of Consultation and Accommodation, I reviewed the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment report prepared by WSP for the Segment 1 for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road).

I currently do not have questions or comments about the archaeological work conducted or the content of the report.

We look forward to collaborating with you on future projects.

Miigwech,

Marie-Annick Prevost, Ph.D. (she/her)

Field archaeologist



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell: 905-870-5844

---


**From:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@wsp.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 2:14 PM  
**To:** Adam LaForme <Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@wsp.com>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com>; Cary, Henry <henry.c.cary@wsp.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Abby LaForme <Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA for Segment 1 (MCFN)

Hi Adam,

We are pleased to share the draft Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Segment 1 Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA. As a reminder, Segment 1 consists of the Merritt Road right-of-way (ROW) between Rice Road and Cataract Road.

The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link -

**Stage 2 Arch Report for Segment 1** -  [IM20103036 P327-0026-2022 7Dec2022 RE St2-MerritRd RiceRd RevA.pdf](#)

**Supplementary Documentation** -  [IM20103036 P327-0026-2022 7Dec2022 SD St2-MerritRd RiceRd RevA.pdf](#)

We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by January 5, 2023.

Thank you,  
Aniqa



**Aniqa Shams**

Human Environment Consultant  
*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

Talpur, Mir Ahsan Ali

---

From: [Mir Ahsan Ali](#)  
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 1:33 PM  
To: [abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca](#); [mark.laForme@mncfn.ca](#)  
Cc: [Elmadhoon, Maged](#)  
Subject: RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Draft ESR (MCFN)

Dear Mr. Mark,

I am writing to you regarding the draft ESR for the proposed development at Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road). I have reviewed the draft and have some comments that I would like to discuss with you. I have attached a document with my comments for your reference. I would appreciate it if you could provide a response to my comments by the deadline.

I am looking forward to hearing from you. Please let me know if you need any further information. Thank you for your time and effort.

Best regards,  
Aniqa Shams



**Aniqa Shams**  
Senior Social Sciences and Engagement Consultant  
*She/Her*  
  
M+ 1 416-357-2093

---

From: Shams, Aniqa  
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 1:33 PM  
To: [abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca](#); [mark.laForme@mncfn.ca](#)  
Cc: Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@wsp.com](#)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](#)>  
Subject: RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Draft ESR (MCFN)

Dear Mr. Mark,

I am writing to you regarding the draft ESR for the proposed development at Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road). I have reviewed the draft and have some comments that I would like to discuss with you. I have attached a document with my comments for your reference. I would appreciate it if you could provide a response to my comments by the deadline.

I am looking forward to hearing from you. Please let me know if you need any further information. Thank you for your time and effort.

Best regards,  
Aniqa Shams

I am looking forward to hearing from you. Please let me know if you need any further information. Thank you for your time and effort.

□□□□□□□□

□□□□



**Aniqa Shams**

Senior Social Sciences and Engagement Consultant

*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

---

From: Marie-Annick Prevost <[Marie-Annick.Prevost@mncfn.ca](mailto:Marie-Annick.Prevost@mncfn.ca)>

Sent: Friday, December 16, 2022 4:51 PM

To: Shams, Aniqa <[aniqa.shams@wsp.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@wsp.com)>

Cc: Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@wsp.com](mailto:mir.talpur@wsp.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com](mailto:muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com)>; Cary, Henry <[henry.c.cary@wsp.com](mailto:henry.c.cary@wsp.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

Subject: RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA for Segment 1 (MCFN)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Aanii Aniqa,

On behalf of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Department of Consultation and Accommodation, I reviewed the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment report prepared by WSP for the Segment 1 for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road).

I currently do not have questions or comments about the archaeological work conducted or the content of the report.

We look forward to collaborating with you on future projects.

Miigwech,

Marie-Annick Prevost, Ph.D. (she/her)

Field archaeologist



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)

Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)

4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0

Cell: 905-870-5844

---

From: Shams, Aniqa <[aniqa.shams@wsp.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@wsp.com)>


Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2022 2:14 PM


To: Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

Cc: Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@wsp.com](mailto:mir.talpur@wsp.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com](mailto:muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com)>; Cary, Henry

Subject: RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA for Segment 1 (MCFN)

[illegible]

Stage 2 Arch Report for Segment 1 -  [IM20103036 P327-0026-2022 7Dec2022 RE St2-MerritRd RiceRd RevA.pdf](#)

Supplementary Documentation -  [IM20103036 P327-0026-2022 7Dec2022 SD St2-MerriRd\\_RiceRd\\_RevA.pdf](#)

[illegible]

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M+ 1 416-357-2093

Subject: RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

The following FLR will be onsite tomorrow.

Mariah Sault (289-321-1882)

In the event of a cancellation or other schedule change, please contact me (Joelle Williams) via cell phone (905-870-2918) or email ([field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)) and CC Adam LaForme ([Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)).



Joelle Williams (she/her)  
Field Coordinator



From: Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@wsp.com](mailto:anika.shams@wsp.com)>  
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 3:00 PM  
To: Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>  
Subject: RE: (2021-0065) Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

Aniqa

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

The following FLR will be onsite Monday.

In the event of a cancellation or other schedule change, please contact me (Joelle Williams) via cell phone (905-870-2918) or email ([field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)) and CC Adam LaForme ([Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)).

Joelle Williams (she/her)  
Field Coordinator



From: Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@wsp.com](mailto:anika.shams@wsp.com)>  
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2022 2:41 PM  
To: Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>  
Cc: Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@wsp.com](mailto:jordan.downey@wsp.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@wsp.com](mailto:peter.popkin@wsp.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@wsp.com](mailto:david.dunn@wsp.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com](mailto:muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@wsp.com](mailto:mir.talpur@wsp.com)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>; Cary, Henry <[henry.c.cary@wsp.com](mailto:henry.c.cary@wsp.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski@wsp.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski@wsp.com)>  
Subject: RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project  
# 2021-0065 - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

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**October 3, 2022**

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Subject: RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project  
# 2021-0065 - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

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Mr. [REDACTED] October 3, 2022

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**QUESTION**

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## Aniqa Shams

Human Environment Consultant

MCIP. RPP

She/Her

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&amp;I Canada Limited

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WS | D

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<[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>  
Subject: RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project  
# 2021-0065

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Afternoon Mir,

Lovegrove, Jodie 289-969-9294 will be joining the crew tomorrow.

Thank you,

Adam LaForme (he/him)  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

From: Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
Sent: June 23, 2022 3:09 PM  
To: Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>  
Cc: Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>  
Subject: RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

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The diagram consists of two horizontal rows of rectangular boxes. The top row contains 16 boxes, and the bottom row also contains 16 boxes. Vertical arrows point from each box in the top row down to its corresponding box in the bottom row. Additionally, there are horizontal arrows pointing from left to right between adjacent boxes in both the top and bottom rows. This creates a grid-like structure where information flows both vertically and horizontally.

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M<sub>1</sub>

Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP

www.woodplc.com

www.woodplc.com

www.woodplc.com



---

From: Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

Sent: Friday, June 17, 2022 3:43 PM

To: Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>

Cc: Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Aniq <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>

Subject: RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Peter,

Thank you for letting me know.

Regards,

Adam LaForme (he/him)

Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

---

From: Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>

Sent: June 17, 2022 3:19 PM

To: Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>

Cc: Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Aniq <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>

Subject: RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

Thanks Adam,

It has been brought to my attention that Tuesday 21 June 2022 is National Indigenous Peoples' Day. In light of this, we will not be completing archaeology on Tuesday 21 June 2022. The project dates will be Monday 20 June 2022, Wednesday 22 June 2022, and Thursday 23 June 2022.

regards,  
Peter

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA**  
Associate Archaeologist  
Environment and Infrastructure Solutions  
Pronouns – He/Him  
Mobile: +1 (905) 329-6456  
[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

From: Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

Sent: Friday, June 17, 2022 3:08 PM

To: Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>

Cc: Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>

Subject: RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Afternoon Peter,

Thank you for the deployment information. Lovegrove, Jodie 289-969-9294 will be joining the crew on Merritt Rd, Monday June 20th.

If there any changes or cancellations please contact me.

Thank you,

Adam LaForme (he/him)  
Archaeological Operations Supervisor



Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)



Department of Consultation and Accommodation (DOCA)  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0  
Cell 289-527-2763

---

From: Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>  
Sent: June 17, 2022 2:59 PM  
To: Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Field Coordinator <[field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca)>  
Cc: Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Aniq <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>  
Subject: RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN) DOCA project # 2021-0065

Hi Adam,

I'm writing on behalf of Mir and Aniq to confirm that the Stage 2 AA test pit survey for the Merritt Road MCEA project will proceed on Monday of next week (20 June, 2022). Please see information below and mapping attached.

Start Date: June 20, 2022 (Pending weather conditions - Jordan Downey will confirm)

Duration: Three days

Start Time: 7:30 am

Consultant Company: Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions

Field Director(s): Jordan Downey, Ph.D. (Archaeology Project Manager)

Cell Phone(s): (437) 328-1681

Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Assessment: Borden Number (if applicable): NA

Required PPE: Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Bug repellent, sun screen, face mask (if social distancing cannot be maintained)

Meeting Location Address: [Merritt Road / Rice Road intersection](#) (Please do not block private driveway entrance)

Size of Field Crew: Four (4)

A map outlining the site and parking area: Please see attached and the link above.

DOCA project # 2021-0065

Please note that Jordan will be the primary contact from Wood for Monday.

regards,  
Peter

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA**  
Associate Archaeologist  
Environment and Infrastructure Solutions  
Pronouns – He/Him  
Mobile: +1 (905) 329-6456  
[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**



DOCA project # 2021-0065

13

From: Talpur, Mir

Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 11:39 AM

To: [field.coordinator@mncfn.ca](mailto:field.coordinator@mncfn.ca); Adam LaForme <[Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Adam.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>

Cc: Abby LaForme <[Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Abby.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Mark LaForme <[Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca](mailto:Mark.LaForme@mncfn.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>

Subject: RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (MCFN)

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Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP

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**Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Road (Regional Road 37) and Rice Road (Regional Road 54) in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland**

# **APPENDIX**

## ***N-2      Six Nations of the Grand River***



## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2021 5:00 PM  
**To:** rlinn@sixnations.ca  
**Cc:** dlaforme@sixnations.ca; lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca; tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; McGill, John; Shams, Anika; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_Indig Cover letter NOC\_SixNations.pdf; IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_Project Summary\_Rev01-14-01-2021.pdf; Merritt-Rice-Notice-of-Study-Commencement-Final.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Robbin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter, project summary, and the Notice of Study Commencement for more details.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://www.niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37/default.aspx>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards

Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Transportation Systems & Planning

Public Works, Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

Cell: 289-407-6862

[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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Robbin Vanstone  
Consultation Supervisor  
Six Nations of the Grand River  
[rlinn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlinn@sixnations.ca)

January 14, 2021

**Re: Notice of Study Commencement - Schedule 'C' Municipal Class  
Environmental Assessment for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional  
Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland**

Dear Mr. Vanstone,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) has initiated a Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.

The Niagara Region has received direction from the Provincial Crown that the Six Nations of the Grand River may have an interest in the Project. The Niagara Region is committed to involving stakeholders and Indigenous Nations in this Study. Attached is the Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary. Please feel free to share this information within your community as you feel appropriate.

We are interested in understanding any interests or questions that the Six Nations of the Grand River may have about this Project and if there is a potential for the Project to affect Indigenous and treaty rights. We would also be interested to know if there are any sites of cultural significance to your community within, or adjacent to, the study area. If you would like to meet in person and discuss, please feel free to contact the undersigned. We will contact you by telephone in the near future to determine your interest in a meeting.

Sincerely,

*M. Elmadhoon*

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

*Jeff Suggett*

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Cc: Lonny Bomberly ([lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca))  
Tanya j. Hill-Montour ([tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca))  
Dawn LaForme ([dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca))  
Mary Kelly, Wood ([mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com))

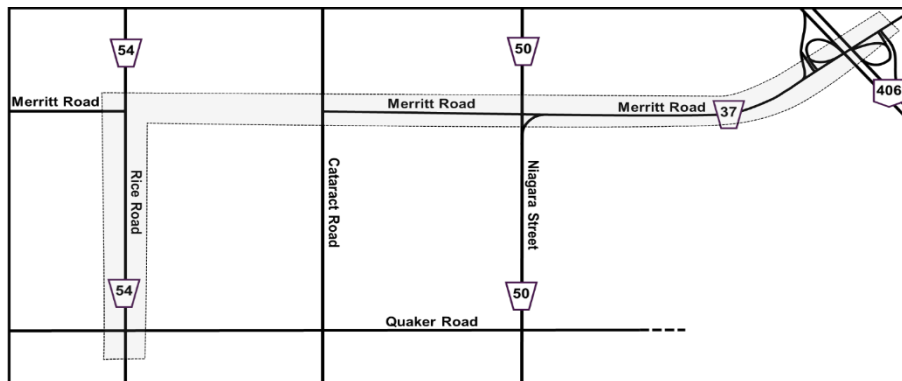
Encl: Notice of Study Commencement; Project Summary

# Notice of Study Commencement

## Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

### The Study

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) has initiated an Environmental Assessment Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study aims to reimagine the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

### The Process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) Municipal Class EA document (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 & 2015), which is an

approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report (ESR) will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## Public Comments Invited

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. Project notifications will be issued at key milestones through advertisement in local newspapers, emails and mail outs to the contacts on the Study Mailing List. Three (3) Public Information Centres (PICs) **(possibly in an online format)** will be conducted to solicit public input. The PICs will provide an opportunity for the public to review the proposed alternative solutions and designs, as well as provide comments and discuss concerns and issues with the project team. As the Study progresses and more information becomes available, it will be posted on [the project webpage](#).

## COVID-19

Niagara Region recognizes that this project is being carried out during uncertain times with respect to the Covid-19 pandemic. Niagara Region will take all necessary steps to ensure maintaining the health and safety of the public. Given the uncertainty of the pandemic, most of the future consultation and communications with the public will be online. As such, the project team is asking that **if you would like to receive future notices via email, to please provide your email address** to the Region Project Manager identified below. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of the project team members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way,  
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment &  
Infrastructure Solutions  
3450 Harvester Road, Suite 100,  
Burlington, ON L7N 3W5  
Telephone: 905-380-3601  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Notice First Issued: January 4, 2021.

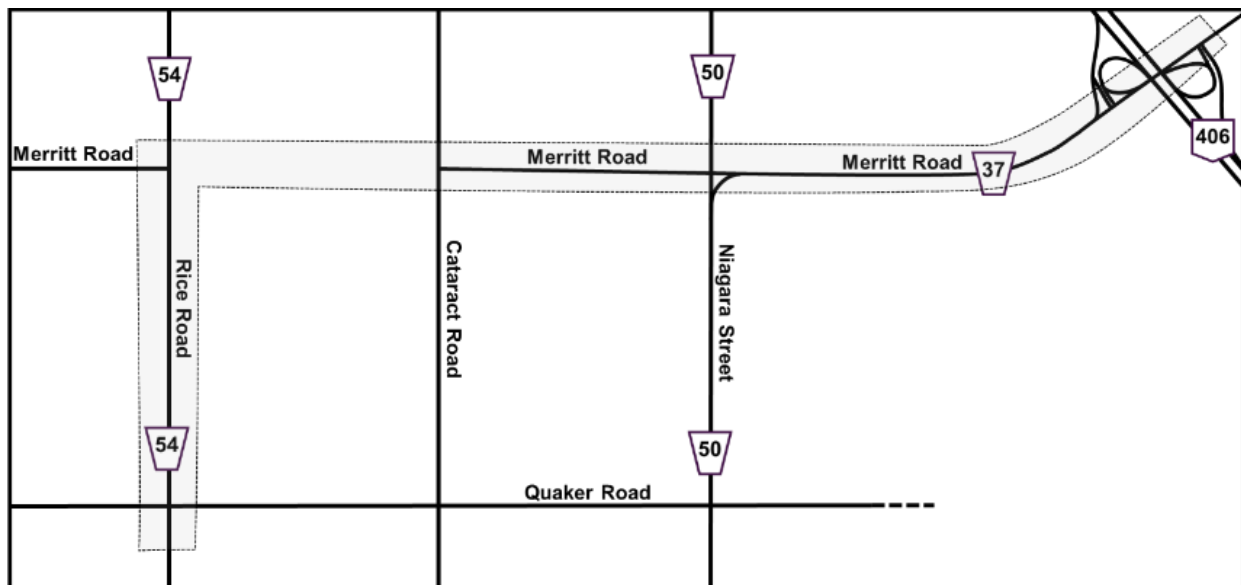
Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study for Improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland

A Municipal Class EA is a decision-making and planning process that identifies the potential effects of projects, such as road improvements, so that they can be managed prior to implementation.

### Project Description

The Region of Niagara (Niagara Region) has initiated a Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland. The Study aims to reimagine the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users.



The Region's goal is to provide a key transportation link that will allow for direct access between Rice Road and Highway 406, via Merritt Road, with specific consideration given to the environmentally sensitive lands. The study will also include improving future traffic conditions to existing sections of Rice Road and Merritt Road, as a result of the proposed developments in the study area. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities. The Niagara Region has retained Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions (Wood) to undertake the Study.

## **Municipal Class Environmental Assessment**

This Study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The purpose of this Class EA is to:

- Confirm the need for road improvements
- Identify and evaluate potential improvement options
- Through a rigorous assessment, recommend the most feasible infrastructure improvement solution
- Identify the potential effects associated with the recommended solution and identify practical measures to avoid or mitigate potential negative effects

The first step in the study process is to develop an understanding of the current conditions in the study area as well as a forecast of future traffic growth. Once baseline conditions and future traffic levels are known, the Region will develop potential alternatives to meet the future growth demand.

The Class EA planning process helps identify the potential effects of proposed projects. Each proposed alternative is assessed against baseline conditions to determine the potential effects, and where necessary, identify mitigation measures to minimize or avoid those impacts. From these alternatives, the most feasible alternative is identified.

A key component of this study is to consult with regulatory agencies, conservation authorities, stakeholders and Indigenous groups.

## **Baseline Studies**

Baseline studies are prepared to describe the current biological, human and physical environment conditions. The following investigations will be completed as part of this study:

- Biological Environment: Species at Risk, Vegetation, Wildlife, and Wetlands
- Human Environment: Archaeology, Built and Cultural Heritage, Land use and Socio-economics, and Visual aesthetics / landscape design
- Physical Environment: Stormwater, and Soils

## Potential Project Related Effects

Potential study effects will be identified through an evaluation of the alternatives, and for the preferred alternative, mitigation measures to address these potential effects will be developed. This may include effects on:

- Heritage properties and cultural heritage landscapes
- Environmental features including land-based and water-based environments.

## Schedule and Next Steps

- Field Studies: tentatively planned for summer and fall 2021
- Public Information Sessions: tentatively planned for March 2021, June 2021 and September 2021
- Environmental Study Report (final report): submission tentatively planned for December 2021

## Additional Information

For more information about the Region's Municipal Class EA study, please visit:  
<https://www.niagararegion.ca/news/notices/notice.aspx?q=514>

## Contact Information

### **Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way,  
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6

Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

### **Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

3450 Harvester Road, Suite 100,  
Burlington, ON L7N 3W5

Telephone: 905-380-3601

[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2021 8:43 AM  
**To:** Tanya Hill-Montour; Robin Linn  
**Cc:** Dawn LaForme; Lonny Bomberry; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; McGill, John; Shams, Anika; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Tanya,

Thanks for your interest in the study. The project team will be consulting with you regarding the archaeological assessment.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2021 8:27 AM  
**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Robin Linn <rlinn@sixnations.ca>  
**Cc:** Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; Lonny Bomberry <lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <Sulaf.Alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Niagara Region email system. Use caution when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning Maged,

Acknowledging that I have received this Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road.



I have an interest in any archaeological Assessment that may occur.

Kind Regards,  
Tanya Hill-Montour BA (Hons)  
Archaeology Supervisor  
Six Nations Lands & Resources  
(519) 753-0665

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged [<mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>]  
**Sent:** January 14, 2021 5:00 PM  
**To:** Robin Linn <[rlinn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlinn@sixnations.ca)>  
**Cc:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Lonny Bomberly <[lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca)>; Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>; McGill, John <[john.mcgill@woodplc.com](mailto:john.mcgill@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[Sulaf.Alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Sulaf.Alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>  
**Subject:** Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road

**Attention: Robbin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter, project summary, and the Notice of Study Commencement for more details.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:  
<https://www.niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37/default.aspx>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021 2:32 PM  
**To:** Tanya Hill-Montour; Elmadhoon, Maged; Robin Linn  
**Cc:** Dawn LaForme; Lonny Bomberry; Suggett, Jeff; Kelly, Mary K; McGill, John; Shams, Anika; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road

Thank you, Tanya. We will share the draft Stage 1 report with you, once available. At this time, it is anticipated that the report will be available in Spring 2021.

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021 1:25 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Robin Linn <rlinn@sixnations.ca>  
**Cc:** Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; Lonny Bomberry <lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good day Mir,

Yes, please send the stage 1 assessment pertaining to Merritt Road and Rice Road. I will review the assessment and forward any comments.

Kind regards,  
Tanya Hill-Montour BA (Hons)  
Archaeology Supervisor  
Six Nations Lands & Resources  
(519) 753-0665

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir [<mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com>]  
**Sent:** January 26, 2021 12:46 PM  
**To:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Robin Linn <[rlinn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlinn@sixnations.ca)>

**Cc:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Lonny Bomberry <[lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>; McGill, John <[john.mcgill@woodplc.com](mailto:john.mcgill@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road

Hi Tanya,

Thank you for your response regarding the Notice of Study Commencement for the Municipal Class EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road. As part of the Class EA Study, we will be undertaking a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment. Could you please advise if you are interested in reviewing the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Report?

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2021 8:27 AM  
**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Robin Linn <[rlinn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlinn@sixnations.ca)>  
**Cc:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Lonny Bomberry <[lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>; McGill, John <[john.mcgill@woodplc.com](mailto:john.mcgill@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good Morning Maged,

Acknowledging that I have received this Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road.

I have an interest in any archaeological Assessment that may occur.

Kind Regards,

*Tanya Hill-Montour* BA (Hons)

Archaeology Supervisor

Six Nations Lands & Resources

(519) 753-0665

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged [<mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>]  
**Sent:** January 14, 2021 5:00 PM  
**To:** Robin Linn <[rlinn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlinn@sixnations.ca)>  
**Cc:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Lonny Bomberry <[lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca)>; Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Howell, Cara  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 11:56 AM  
**To:** rlinn@sixnations.ca  
**Cc:** Lonny Bomberly; Tanya Hill-Montour; Dawn Laforme; Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; Elmadhoon, Maged; Suggett, Jeff; Seguin, Jason  
**Subject:** Information Sharing Letter - Merritt - Rice Road  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_InformationSharingLetter-Six Nations\_1-02-2021.pdf

Good Morning Robbin,

Please find attached an information sharing letter for the upcoming Stage 1 archaeological assessment along Merritt and Rice Road.

Please feel free to contact me if you any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Cara

Cara Howell B.A.

Member, Association of Professional Archaeologists (Ontario)

Senior Archaeologist, Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

3450 Harvester Road, Suite 100 Burlington, Ontario L7N 3W5

Direct: (905) 335 2353 x3017

Mobile: (905) 730 5735

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

February 1, 2021

Reference Number: IM20103036  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON  
N0A 1H0

Attention: Ms. Robbin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor, Six Nations of the Grand River.  
Via e-mail to: [rlinn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlinn@sixnations.ca)

**RE: Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment in Support of a Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment and Detailed Transportation Assessment along Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold, and City of Welland.**

Dear Ms. Vanstone,

The Niagara Region requires a Stage 1 archaeological assessment in support of a Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment and Detailed Transportation Assessment for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold, and City of Welland. Study Area. The study area is shown in **Figure 1**. The Notice of Study Commencement along with Project Summary was shared with you on January 14, 2021.

This information sharing letter is provided in keeping with Niagara Region's ongoing Indigenous engagement process. This letter provides the schedule for Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, Study Area map, scope of work, and information on the Archaeology Team Members.

### **Schedule for Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment**

It is assumed that the Stage 1 archaeological assessment fieldwork will take place during February 2021, weather permitting. The Stage 1 fieldwork will take two days to complete. A winter work strategy was submitted, and approved, to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries' (MHSTCI).





Figure 1 - Stage 1 Study Area

## Scope of Work for Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

The scope of work for the Stage 1 background study will consist of the following tasks:

- Indigenous Engagement;
- Contact the MHSTCI to determine a comprehensive listing of recorded archaeological sites within 1 kilometre ("km") of the study area;
- Contact the MHSTCI to determine a comprehensive listing of previous archaeological assessments that have been conducted within a 50 meter ("m") radius;
- A desktop review of the study area's physical setting to determine its potential for both historic and precontact human occupation, including its physiographic and hydrographic situation, soils, and proximity to important resources and historical transportation routes and settlements;
- A review of the potential for historic period occupation as documented in historical atlases and other archival sources;
- A property inspection to gather current, first-hand information on archaeological potential and to aid in delineating where archaeological potential may have been impacted or removed by recent land-use practices;
- Mapping, photography and production of other relevant graphics;
- An executive summary preceding the main text of the report will be prepared summarizing the findings and recommendations of the report;
- Preparation of a Draft Stage 1 archaeological assessment report of findings with recommendations regarding the need for further archaeological work if deemed necessary.

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment and site visit will be conducted in accordance with the MHSTCI 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* set out by the MHSTCI pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18.

## Project Team

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA, Associate Archaeologist Role: Senior Review**— Dr. Popkin is an Associate and Senior Archaeologist at Wood. Peter has over 20 years of professional experience in both consulting and academic archaeology within Canada and internationally. In Ontario he has successfully undertaken consultant archaeology projects triggered by: the Planning Act (subdivisions, site plans, re-zoning, official plan amendments, consent), the Environmental Assessment Act (individual and Class EAs, provincial and federal EAs), the Environmental Protection Act (Renewable Energy Approvals O.Reg 359/09), as well as the Aggregates Resources Act (aggregate pit extensions), and has managed projects under the National Energy Board Act (now the Canadian Energy Regulator Act). Dr. Popkin has lectured in archaeology at York University, the University of Toronto and Wilfrid Laurier University in Ontario, as well as University

College London, King's College London, and Birkbeck College, in the UK. Dr. Popkin holds a Professional Archaeology Licence (P362) from the MHSTCI, is a Professional Member of the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals (CAHP) and is a full Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA). Dr. Popkin received his Ph.D. from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, London, UK (2009).

**Barbara Slim, M.A., Associate Archaeologist, Ontario Archaeology Discipline Lead, Role: Technical Review** – Ms. Slim is a professionally licensed archaeologist with over 16 years of experience in the archaeology and environmental consulting industry. Ms. Slim has conducted all aspects of Stage 1 to 4 archaeological assessments for provincial agencies, municipalities, and land developers in support of infrastructure developments, financial real estate transactions, environmental remediation and private developments. As a founding member of the Wood Ontario archaeology team, Ms. Slim has performed every aspect of project execution, from client relations, project design to MHSTCI clearance. Through her project experience, Ms. Slim has gained an in-depth understanding of the Heritage Act and legislations & standards associated with cultural heritage management. Ms. Slim holds a Master's Degree in Anthropology from Trent University and an Honours Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies and Anthropology from Trent University. Ms. Slim currently holds a Professional Archaeology Licence (P348) issued by the MHSTCI and is a member of the Ontario Association of Professional Archaeologists.

**Cara Howell, B.A., Senior Archaeologist, Role: Archaeological Project Manager and Field Director** – Ms. Howell holds a B.A. Degree in Anthropology and Classical Archaeology from McMaster University and has been working in the field of archaeological consulting since 1999. She holds an Applied Research License (R180) in archaeology from the MHSTCI and possesses a full range of archaeological skills. As a result of her specialized interest in the historic Euro-Canadian period, she has become an authority on early Euro-Canadian artifacts and historic period background research. As the archaeology Laboratory Director for Wood's Cultural Heritage Resources Group, she developed and implements a computerized cataloguing system for artifacts and other resources. Ms. Howell also serves as lead liaison with First Nations communities.

**Jason Seguin, M.A., Senior Archaeologist, Role: Project Licensee and Report Writer** – Mr. Seguin has worked as an archaeologist / anthropologist since 2004. Mr. Seguin has conducted Stage 1 to 4 archaeological assessments including background searches, field surveys, archaeological excavations, analysis of cultural artifacts, laboratory work and reporting. Mr. Seguin is involved in project management and supervision as well as being an archaeological laboratory director. Mr. Seguin has developed research and communication skills through editing field reports, teaching university level students in both lecture and seminar environments, as well as preparing and presenting presentations at academic conferences. Mr. Seguin's education and work experience have provided him with an extensive knowledge base, consisting of theoretical and practical experience in cultural resource management in Canada and Central America, as well as curatorial, archival and museum management experience. Mr. Seguin holds a Master's Degree in Anthropology from Trent University, and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Museum Management and Curatorship from Sir Sandford Fleming College. Mr. Seguin currently holds a Professional Archaeology License (License P354) issued by the MHSTCI.



We have provided this information sharing letter to demonstrate that we take your interest in the project area very seriously. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [cara.howell@woodplc.com](mailto:cara.howell@woodplc.com).

Respectfully submitted,

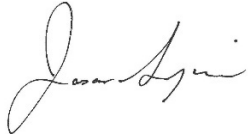
**Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions,  
A Division of Wood Canada Limited**



Cara Howell (R180)  
Senior Archaeologist  
[cara.howell@woodplc.com](mailto:cara.howell@woodplc.com)



Barbara Slim, M.A. (P348)  
Associate Archaeologist  
[barbara.slim@woodplc.com](mailto:barbara.slim@woodplc.com)



Jason Seguin, M.A. (P354)  
Senior Archaeologist  
[Jason.seguin@woodplc.com](mailto:Jason.seguin@woodplc.com)

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 5, 2021 4:29 PM  
**To:** Robin Linn  
**Cc:** Lonny Bomberly; Tanya Hill-Montour; Dawn LaForme; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Shams, Anika; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_CoverLetter\_PIC-SNGR.pdf; notice-of-pic-merritt-rd.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

### Attention: Robbin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #1.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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Robbin Vanstone  
Consultation Supervisor  
Six Nations of the Grand River  
[rlinn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlinn@sixnations.ca)

March 5, 2021

**Re: Notice of Public Information Centre #1 - Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland**

Dear Mr. Vanstone,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. A Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary was sent to the Six Nations of the Grand River by the Niagara Region on January 14, 2021.

The Niagara Region is planning to host the Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 to introduce the Study to the community. As part of the PIC, an online presentation will be delivered on **March 24, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. If you would like to attend the online presentation, please send an email to [mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com) to receive an invite. In addition, information materials related to the Online PIC #1 will be available on the project webpage starting **March 24, 2021** and comments will be received until **April 7, 2021**. The project webpage is at <https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>.

The Niagara Region would like to invite the Six Nations of the Grand River to participate in the PIC #1 and provide any comments about the project. Alternatively, the Niagara Region would welcome the opportunity to meet and present this information to you and discuss any comments you may have about the project. We are also seeking information about the potential for the project to affect Indigenous and treaty rights. If you would like to meet, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Elmadhoon".

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Suggett".

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

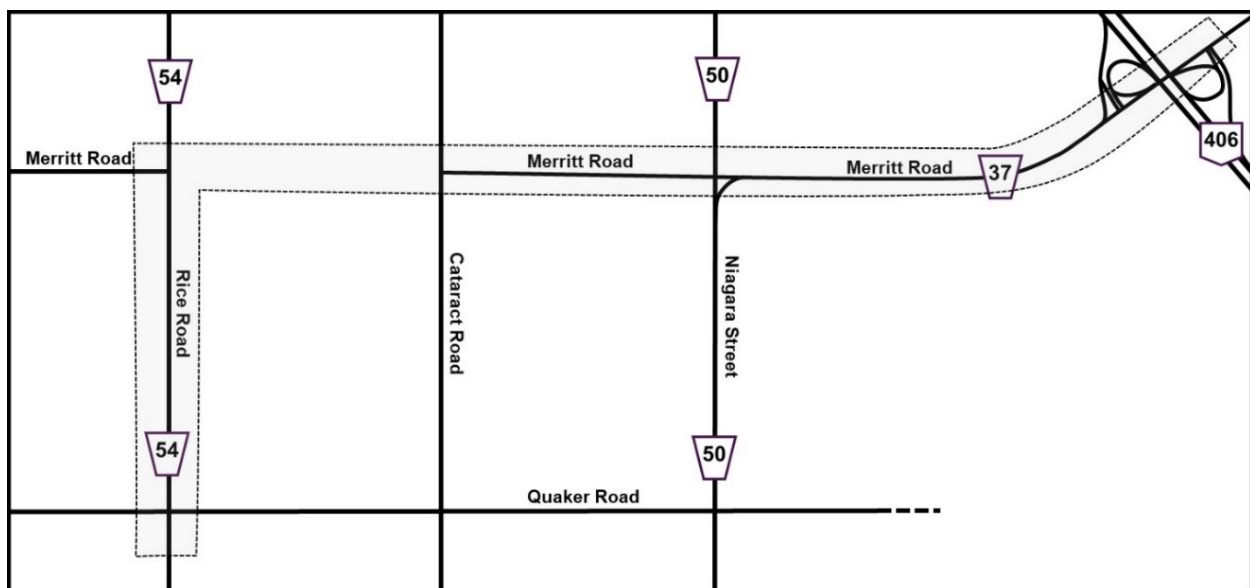
Cc: Lonny Bomberry ([lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca))  
Tanya j. Hill-Montour ([tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca))  
Dawn LaForme ([dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca))  
Mary Kelly, Wood ([mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com))

Encl: Notice of Public Information Centre #1

# Notice of Online Public Information Centre #1 Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

## The Study

Niagara Region is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study will aim to identify improvements to the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

## The process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class EA process, which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This study will address the requirements of Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class EA process. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## You are invited to participate

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. Three (3) Public Information Centers will be conducted throughout this study to solicit public input. At this time, the Niagara Region is planning to host the Public Information Centre (PIC) #1. The purpose of the first PIC is to share information about the project background, Class EA Study process, the problem to be addressed by this study, and obtain preliminary input from the public for consideration into the Study process. The PIC #1 will be held in **an online format**. You can participate in this PIC by attending an online presentation and/or by viewing information materials on Wood's Virtual Consultation Platform.

**Online Presentation:** The Study Team will deliver an online presentation on **March 24, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask any questions or submit comments. Please email [mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com) (**Mir Talpur, Environmental Planner**) to receive an invite to the online presentation.

**Virtual Consultation Platform:** Information materials related to the Online PIC #1 will be available on [Wood's Consultation Platform on project webpage](#) starting **March 24, 2021** and comments will be received until **April 7, 2021**.

## Stay Connected

If you would like to receive future notices via email, or if you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Study Team Members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Niagara Region

905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

905-380-3601

[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 12:55 PM  
**To:** rvanstone@sixnations.ca  
**Cc:** Lonny Bomberly; Tanya Hill-Montour; Dawn LaForme; Elmadhoon, Maged; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Robbin,

We are pleased to share the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region. The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link.

Download Link:  [Stage 1 AA & CH Assessment](#)

We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by May 22, 2021.

Thanks,  
Anika

**Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP**  
Human Environment Consultant  
Direct: + (905) 568-2929  
Mobile: + (416) 357-2093  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



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**From:** Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 2:19 PM  
**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; rvanstone@sixnations.ca  
**Cc:** Lonny Bomberly <lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca>; Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>; Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Good afternoon Robbin,

As a follow-up to our Thursday discussion, the Region will share a draft of the Environmental Study Report for your review when it is ready. We anticipate that this will be ready in late 2021 or early 2022. We do expect a draft of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment to be ready for review within the coming weeks, and will share this with you and Tanya for review when it is available.

If you should have any questions please do not hesitate to let the us know. Cheers, Mary

**Mary Kathryn Kelly, MES**

Discipline Lead, Human Environment / Program Lead,  
Indigenous Relations & Partnerships  
Direct/Mobile: 705-493-9393  
[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>

**Sent:** Friday, March 5, 2021 4:29 PM

**To:** Robin Linn <[rlnn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlnn@sixnations.ca)>

**Cc:** Lonny Bomberry <[lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca)>; Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>; Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; van den Burg, Gina <[Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; McGill, John <[john.mcgill@woodplc.com](mailto:john.mcgill@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Robbin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #1.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 8:02 AM  
**To:** 'rvanstone@sixnations.ca'  
**Cc:** 'Lonny Bomberly'; 'Tanya Hill-Montour'; 'Dawn LaForme'; 'Elmadhoon, Maged'; 'van den Burg, Gina'; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Robbin,

We are following up to see if you have had a chance to review the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region and had any questions or comments for us at this time? As a reminder, if you could send us comments or questions by May 22, 2021, that would be great. If you need more time to review, please let us know.

Thank you,  
Anika

### Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP

Human Environment Consultant

Direct: + (905) 568-2929

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

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**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 12:55 PM  
**To:** rvanstone@sixnations.ca  
**Cc:** Lonny Bomberly <lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca>; Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>; Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Robbin,

We are pleased to share the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region. The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link.

Download Link:  [Stage 1 AA & CH Assessment](#)

We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by May 22, 2021.



## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 4:30 PM  
**To:** Robin Linn  
**Cc:** Lonny Bomberly; Tanya Hill-Montour; Dawn LaForme; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_CoverLetter\_PIC2-SNGR\_26-05-2021.pdf; IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_Notice-PIC#2\_19-05-2021 (Website).pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

### Attention: Robbin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #2.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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Robbin Vanstone  
Consultation Supervisor  
Six Nations of the Grand River  
[rlinn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlinn@sixnations.ca)

May 26, 2021

**Re: Notice of Public Information Centre #2 - Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland**

Dear Mr. Vanstone,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.

A Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary was sent to the Six Nations of the Grand River by Niagara Region on January 14, 2021, followed by a Notice of Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 on March 5, 2021. PIC #1 was held from March 24, 2021 to April 7, 2021 to introduce the Study. A Summary Report documenting the comments received from PIC #1 and Study Team's responses is provided on the [project webpage](#).

The Niagara Region is now planning to host **PIC #2** to share information about the Study, the evaluation of alternative solutions, the preferred solution and obtain input for consideration into the Study. As part of the PIC, an online presentation will be delivered on **Wednesday, June 9, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. If you would like to attend the online presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#) on the day of presentation and click on the presentation link. In addition, information materials related to the PIC #2 will be available on the project webpage starting June 9, 2021 and comments will be received until **June 30, 2021**.

The Niagara Region would like to invite the Six Nations of the Grand River to participate in the PIC #2 and provide any comments about the project. Alternatively, the Niagara Region would welcome the opportunity to meet and present this information to you and discuss any comments you may have about the project. We are also seeking information about the potential for the project to affect Indigenous and treaty rights. If you would like to meet, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

*M. Elmadhoon*

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

*Jeff Suggett*

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Cc: Lonny Bomberly ([lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca))  
Tanya j. Hill-Montour ([tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca))  
Dawn LaForme ([dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca))  
Mary Kelly, Wood ([mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com))

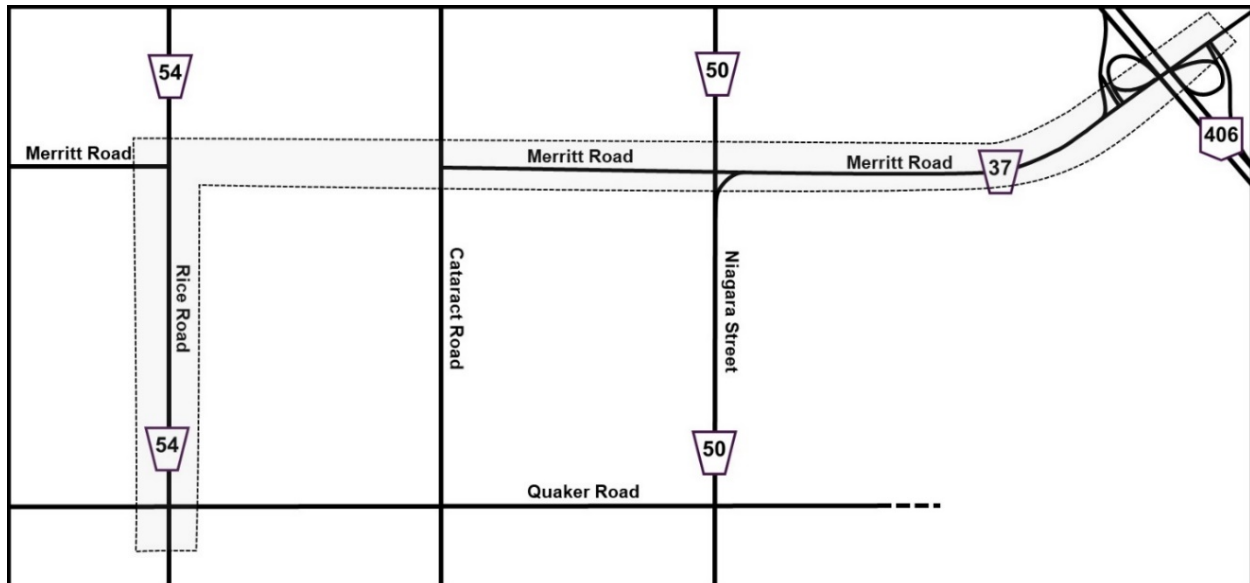
Encl: Notice of Public Information Centre #2

## Notice of Online Public Information Centre #2

### Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

#### The Study

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study will aim to identify improvements to the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

## The Process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class EA process, which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This study will address the requirements of Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class EA process. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## You are invited to participate!

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. The Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 was held from March 24, 2021 to April 7, 2021 to introduce the Study. A Summary Report documenting the comments received from PIC #1 and Study Team's responses is provided on the [project webpage](#).

The Niagara Region is now planning to host the **PIC #2** for this study. The purpose of this PIC is to share information about the study, the evaluation of alternative solutions, the preferred solution and obtain input for consideration into the Study. The PIC #2 will be held in an **online format** via project webpage.

You are invited to **attend the Online Presentation on Wednesday, June 9, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask any questions or submit comments. To join the online presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#) on the day of presentation and click on the presentation link. In addition, the information materials related to the PIC #2 will be available on the project webpage starting June 9, 2021, and comments will be received until **June 30, 2021**.

## Stay Connected!

If you would like to receive future notices via email, or if you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Study Team Members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Niagara Region

905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

905-380-3601

[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 12:36 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika; Maher, Trina; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** FW: new email.

FYI

---

**From:** Robin Vanstone <[rvanstone@sixnations.ca](mailto:rvanstone@sixnations.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 12:11 PM  
**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>  
**Subject:** new email.

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Niagara Region email system. Use caution when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

My name is Robbin Vanstone and I am the Consultation Supervisor for Six Nations of the Grand River. My former contact information was Robbin Linn.

Could you please update your records to reflect the change in name/email address?

Thank you,

*Robbin Vanstone*

*Consultation Supervisor  
Lands and Resources  
Six Nations of the Grand River  
w. 519-753-0665 ext. 5433  
c. 226-388-0284  
[rvanstone@sixnations.ca](mailto:rvanstone@sixnations.ca)*



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## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:37 AM  
**To:** Robin Vanstone  
**Cc:** Lonny Bomberly; Tanya Hill-Montour; Dawn LaForme; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Elmadhoon, Maged  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Robbin,

In keeping with our client's commitment to engage with Nations throughout the process regarding the Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, we wanted to follow up with Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR), to ensure you were updated on this Study. We have prepared a summary of the correspondence and outreach we have done in regards to this Study and provided this information in the table below for your reference.

As a follow up to our May 28<sup>th</sup> discussion, we would like to extend an invitation to meet and discuss any concerns or comments you might have at this time. Please let us know if you are interested and we can arrange a Teams meeting. Thank you for your time to review this request.

Date	Consultation Summary
14-Jan-21	Niagara Region reached out to identify that Niagara Region was undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland.
5-Mar-21	Niagara Region reached out to identify that the Public Information Centre (PIC) No. 1 was being held online starting March 24, 2021 and that Niagara Region is seeking input by April 7, 2021.
1-Apr-21	Wood, on behalf of Niagara Region, reached out to follow-up on the March 5, 2021 email.
5-Apr-21	Wood, on behalf of Niagara Region, reached out to follow-up on the March 5, 2021 email and document the outcomes of the April 1, 2021 discussion. Niagara Region will share a draft of the Environmental Study Report and Archaeological Assessment when they are ready for review.
22-Apr-21	Wood, on behalf of Niagara Region shared the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for review with a deadline for comments requested by May 22, 2021.
13-May-21	Wood, on behalf of Niagara Region followed up on May 13, 2021 to inquire about any comments or questions on the draft Stage 1 Archaeological

	Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report.
28-May-21	Niagara Region provided a cover letter and Notice of PIC #2 which is scheduled for June 9, 2021.

The next steps in the Study includes field work for natural environment (vegetation surveys) and the third PIC for this fall. At this time, various technical reports will be ready, which we would be happy to share with SNGR for review and comment. Please also let us know if you are interested in the upcoming field work. We look forward to hearing back from you.

Best regards,  
Aniqa

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 4:30 PM

**To:** Robin Linn <rlinn@sixnations.ca>

**Cc:** Lonny Bomberry <lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca>; Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>; Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>

**Subject:** Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Robbin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #2.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:  
<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Transportation Systems & Planning

Public Works, Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

Cell: 289-407-6862

[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 9:02 AM  
**To:** Robin Linn  
**Cc:** Lonny Bomberly; Tanya Hill-Montour; Dawn LaForme; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Wilson, Josh; Esmaeeli, Hamed; Siyam, Waad  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 3-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** SNGR\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_CoverLetter\_PIC 3.pdf; IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_Notice-PIC#3\_04-11-2021 (Website).pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

### Attention: Robbin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #3.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

#### **Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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November 15, 2021

Robbin Vanstone  
Consultation Supervisor  
Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation  
[rvanstone@sixnations.ca](mailto:rvanstone@sixnations.ca)

**Attention: Robbin Vanstone**

SENT VIA EMAIL

**RE: Notice of Online Public Information Centre #3 - Schedule 'C'  
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37)  
and Rice Rd. (RR 54) Pelham, Thorold and Welland**

Dear Ms. Vanstone,

The Niagara Region is pleased to provide the Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR) with an update on this Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study. The Class EA Study was initiated in January 2021 to identify improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road in the Town of Pelham, and in the Cities of Thorold and Welland.

Consultation with the Indigenous Nations is a key element of the Class EA process and input is invited for incorporation into the planning and design of the project. A Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary was sent to the SNGR on January 14, 2021. A Notice for the Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 to introduce the Study was shared with the SNGR on March 5, 2021, and the PIC #1 Online Presentation was held on March 24, 2021. A Notice of the PIC #2 to share preferred solution was shared with the SNGR on May 26, 2021, and this PIC was held on June 9, 2021. The Niagara Region has now completed Phase 3 of the Class EA process for the project and has identified the preliminary preferred design for the road improvements.

A third PIC is planned to be held **Online** to present the preliminary preferred design for the road improvements. As part of the PIC, an **Online** Presentation will be held on **Wednesday, December 1, 2021**, starting at **6:00 p.m.** The Niagara Region is inviting the SNGR to participate in the PIC #3. If SNGR would like to attend the Online Presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#). Access to the Online Presentation will be available on the scheduled date and time of the PIC #3. Information materials for the PIC #3 will be available on the [project webpage](#) starting **December 1, 2021**, and comments will be received until **December 16, 2021**. The project webpage is at: <https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Alternatively, the Niagara Region would welcome the opportunity to meet and present this information to the SNGR and discuss any comments that SNGR may have about the Study. The Niagara Region is also seeking information about the potential for the Project to affect Indigenous Nations and Treaty Rights. If the SNGR would like to meet to discuss this project, please contact the undersigned.

Please refer to the attached Notice of Public Information Centre #3 for more information.

Sincerely,



**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Niagara Region

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Cc:

Lonny Bomberly ([lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca))

Tanya J. Hill-Montour ([tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca))

Dawn LaForme ([dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca))

Jeff Suggett, Wood ([Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com))

Trina Maher, Wood ([trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com))

Mir Ahsan Talpur ([mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com))

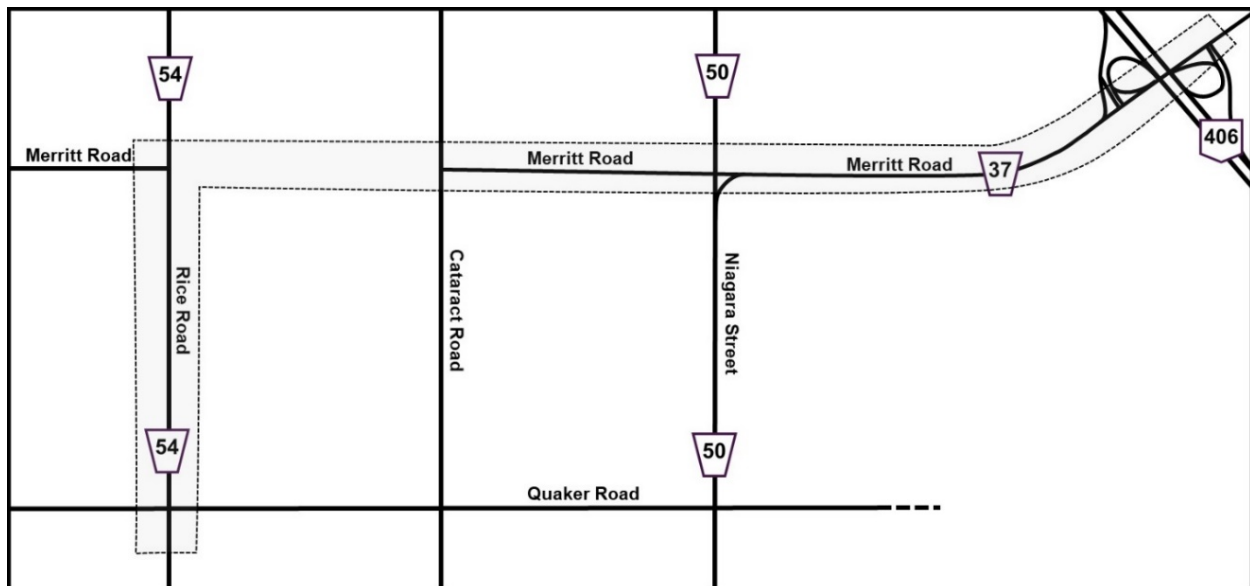
Enclosed: Notice of Public Information Centre #3

# Notice of Online Public Information Centre #3

## Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

### The Study

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study aims to identify improvements to the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study also aims to address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

## The Process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class EA process, which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This study will address the requirements of Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class EA process. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## You are invited to participate!

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. The Public Information Centre #1 was held from March 24, 2021, to April 7, 2021, and the Public Information Centre #2 was held from June 9, 2021, to June 30, 2021. Materials related to these events, including the summary reports documenting the comments received and Study Team's responses are available on the [project webpage](#).

The Niagara Region is now planning to host the third and last **Public Information Centre #3** for this study to share the preliminary preferred design for the road improvements. This event will be held in an **online format** via project webpage.

You are invited to **attend the Online Presentation on Wednesday, December 1, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask any questions or submit comments. To join the online presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#) on the day of presentation and click on the presentation link. In addition, the information materials related to the Public Information Centre #3 will be available on the project webpage starting December 1, 2021, and comments will be received until **December 16, 2021**.

## Stay Connected!

If you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Study Team Members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
905-380-3601

[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 2:42 PM  
**To:** Robin Vanstone  
**Cc:** Lonny Bomberry; Dawn LaForme; Bethany Kuntz-Wakefield; Tayler Hill; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Khan, Muhammad; Shams, Anika; Dunn, David; Hughes, Samantha  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (SNGR)  
**Attachments:** MeetingLocation-Merritt Rd-Rice Rd-TerrestrialFieldwork (Sept 14-16).jpg; Declaration Form Covid-19.pdf; EI Fitness For Duty\_Covid19 Medical Pre-Screening Form v2.pdf

Hi Robbin,

Further to the emails below, the details for tomorrow's Species at Risk surveys for Merritt Road-Rice Road EA are provided below. Please let us know if any field liaisons from SNGR will be available to participate in the fieldwork. If they are, please provide their name and contact information.

- **Start Date:** May 20, 2022
- **End Date:** May 20, 2022
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** One day
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site at 9 am.
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** David Dunn | Terrestrial Ecologist | (647) 616-6088 | [david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (targeted Species at Risk Surveys)
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses)
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up, and [click here for a google maps link to that general location](#).
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (David Dunn)
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** A map and link to the meeting location is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any Environmental Monitor attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

**www.woodplc.com**



---

**From:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 9:28 AM

**To:** Robin Vanstone <rvanstone@sixnations.ca>

**Cc:** Lonny Bomberry <lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca>; Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; Bethany Kuntz-Wakefield <wildlife@sixnations.ca>; Tayler Hill <tayler.hill@sixnations.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Wilson, Josh <Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca>; Esmaeeli, Hamed <Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca>; Siyam, Waad <Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Khan, Muhammad <muhhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Martin, Reuven <reuven.martin@woodplc.com>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (SNGR)

Hi Robbin,

As mentioned in the email below, targeted Species at Risk Surveys on May 6, 2022 and May 20, 2022. The details for the May 6, 2022 field work are provided below:

- **Start Date:** May 6, 2022
- **End Date:** May 6, 2022
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** One day
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site at 9 am.
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** Reuven Martin | 226-979-4105 | [reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (targeted Species at Risk Surveys)
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses)
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up, and [click here for a google maps link to that general location.](#)
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (Reuven Martin)
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** Please see attached the Study Area map. A separate map and link to the meeting location is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure

that any field liaisons attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:

- All employees and visitors to site must review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
- Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
- Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

Please let us know if any field liaisons will be available to participate in the fieldwork. If they are, please provide their name and contact information.

If you have any other questions, please let me know.

Thanks!

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

---

**From:** Shams, Aniqa

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 10:43 AM

**To:** Robin Vanstone <[rvanstone@sixnations.ca](mailto:rvanstone@sixnations.ca)>

**Cc:** Lonny Bomberry <[lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca)>; Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Bethany Kuntz-Wakefield <[wildlife@sixnations.ca](mailto:wildlife@sixnations.ca)>; Tayler Hill <[tayler.hill@sixnations.ca](mailto:tayler.hill@sixnations.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Wilson, Josh <[Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca)>; Esmaeeli, Hamed <[Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca)>; Siyam, Waad <[Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (SNGR)

Hi Robbin,

We are currently planning fieldwork for targeted Species at Risk Surveys on May 6, 2022 and May 20, 2022 for the Merritt Road and Rice Road Municipal Class EA. We will provide additional details on meeting location and timing closer to the fieldwork date. Please let us know if a Field Liaison Representative from Six Nations of the Grand River would be interested and available to participate in this fieldwork.

Thank you,

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant



Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 9:02 AM

**To:** Robin Linn <[rlinn@sixnations.ca](mailto:rlinn@sixnations.ca)>

**Cc:** Lonny Bomberry <[lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca)>; Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>; Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Wilson, Josh <[Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca)>; Esmaeeli, Hamed <[Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca)>; Siyam, Waad <[Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca)>

**Subject:** Notice of PIC 3-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Robbin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #3.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards

Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Public Works, Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

Cell: 289-407-6862

[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 17, 2022 3:23 PM  
**To:** Popkin, Peter; Dawn LaForme  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Khan, Muhammad; Shams, Anika; Downey, Jordan; Dunn, David; Talpur, Mir  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Thank you Peter!

Kind Regards,

*Tanya j. Hill-Montour* B.A Hons.  
Six Nations of the Grand River - Archaeology Supervisor.  
c.226.388.0665  
e. [tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)

---

**From:** Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@woodplc.com>  
**Sent:** June 17, 2022 3:20 PM  
**To:** Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@woodplc.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

Hello Dawn and Tanya,

It has been brought to my attention that Tuesday 21 June 2022 is National Indigenous Peoples' Day. In light of this, we will not be completing archaeology on Tuesday 21 June 2022. The project dates will be Monday 20 June 2022, Wednesday 22 June 2022, and Thursday 23 June 2022.

regards,  
Peter

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA**  
Associate Archaeologist  
Environment and Infrastructure Solutions  
Pronouns – He/Him  
Mobile: +1 (905) 329-6456  
[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Popkin, Peter

**Sent:** Friday, June 17, 2022 3:00 PM

**To:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>

**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

Hello Dawn and Tanya,

I'm writing on behalf of Mir and Anika to confirm that the Stage 2 AA test pit survey for the Merritt Road MCEA project will proceed on Monday of next week (20 June, 2022). Please see information below and mapping attached.

Start Date: June 20, 2022 (Pending weather conditions - Jordan Downey will confirm)

Duration: Three days

Start Time: 7:30 am

Consultant Company: Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions

Field Director(s): Jordan Downey, Ph.D. (Archaeology Project Manager)

Cell Phone(s): (437) 328-1681

Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Assessment: Borden Number (if applicable): NA

Required PPE: Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Bug repellent, sun screen, face mask (if social distancing cannot be maintained)

Meeting Location Address: [Merritt Road / Rice Road intersection](#) (Please do not block private driveway entrance)

Size of Field Crew: Four (4)

A map outlining the site and parking area: Please see attached and the link above.

Please note that Jordan will be the primary contact from Wood for Monday.

regards,

Peter

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA**

Associate Archaeologist

Environment and Infrastructure Solutions

Pronouns – He/Him

Mobile: +1 (905) 329-6456

[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 11:39 AM  
**To:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

Hi Dawn and Tanya,

Further to the email correspondence below, please find attached SNGR's Archaeological Monitoring Agreement signed by the Niagara Region for Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Road and Rice Road in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. If you could please share the final signed agreement from your end, that would be greatly appreciated.

We would also like to inform you that the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Merritt Road (from Rice Road to Cataract Road) is currently planned for June 20-22 (weather permitting). Peter or Jordan (copied here) will share the exact time and meeting location on Friday this week, and will also confirm at that time if plans change for June 20 due to rain forecast.

Could you please confirm if a Monitor from SNGR would be available to monitor this work, and share their contact information?

I have provided contact information of the our director for this project below:

Jordan Downey, Ph.D.  
Archaeology Project Manager  
Mobile: +1 (437) 328-1681  
Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**  
Environmental Planner  
Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974  
**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**



---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, June 6, 2022 2:23 PM

**To:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>

**Cc:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

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Thanks Dawn for the clarification. Can you please share a word document as well.

I am sharing the document with the consultant team for their comment and review.

Thanks  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Public Works, Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

Cell: 289-407-6862

[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



---

**From:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, June 6, 2022 1:13 PM

**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>

**Cc:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

**CAUTION EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from outside of the Niagara Region email system. Use caution when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

*Good afternoon Maged,  
The agreement that Tanya sent to you would be for Merritt Road / Rice Road .. please read below message .. hope this helps*

Thank you kindly,

**Dawn LaForme** Secretary/Receptionist, SN Lands & Resources (519) 753-0665

---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>

**Sent:** May 30, 2022 9:28 AM

**To:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>

**Subject:** FW: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

Kind Regards,

**Tanya j. Hill-Montour** B.A Hons.

Six Nations of the Grand River - Archaeology Supervisor.

c.226.388.0665

e. [tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)

---

**From:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Sent:** May 30, 2022 9:27 AM

**To:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>; Robin Vanstone <[rvanstone@sixnations.ca](mailto:rvanstone@sixnations.ca)>

**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

Hi Tanya,

The contact for the agreement would be the Niagara Region Project Manager – Maged Elmadhoon (copied). If you could please share the agreement with us and we will coordinate with the Region for their review and signature.

Thank you,

Anika

**Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 2:29 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Robin Vanstone <[rvanstone@sixnations.ca](mailto:rvanstone@sixnations.ca)>  
**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Anika

We have interest in participation in the Archaeological fieldwork. Who is contact for our standard agreement?

Kind Regards,

*Tanya j. Hill-Montour* B.A Hons.  
Six Nations of the Grand River - Archaeology Supervisor.  
c.226.388.0665  
e. [tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)

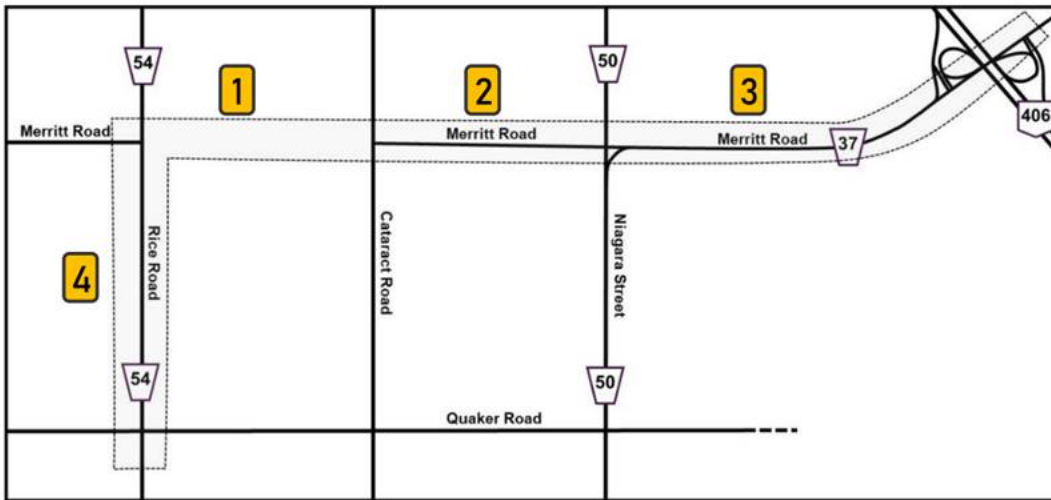
---

**From:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** May 26, 2022 10:04 AM  
**To:** Robin Vanstone <[rvanstone@sixnations.ca](mailto:rvanstone@sixnations.ca)>; Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>  
**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

Hi Robbin and Tanya,

We're reaching out to notify you of the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, planned along Merritt Road unopened road allowance (Segment 1) (see the map below) for the Merritt Road and Rice Road Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. We plan to complete this work either the week of June 6 or June 13 and will last for approximately three (3) days. Please note that this is an advanced notice and we will confirm exact dates as we get closer to the days of the fieldwork. We will also be inviting Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council (as represented by the Haudenosaunee Development Institute) to participate in the fieldwork.

Please let us know if your FLRs would be available to join this fieldwork.



Best regards,  
Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

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## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 11:51 AM  
**To:** Dawn LaForme  
**Cc:** Tanya Hill-Montour; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Khan, Muhammad; Shams, Anika; Popkin, Peter; Downey, Jordan; Dunn, David  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

Thank you very much, Dawn.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**

**wood.**

---

**From:** Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 11:46 AM  
**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Cc:** Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@woodplc.com>; Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@woodplc.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (SNGR)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

*Good morning Maged,  
Attached please find the signed copy of the monitor agreement for your files.*

*Thank you kindly,  
Dawn LaForme Secretary/Receptionist, SN Lands & Resources (519) 753-0665*

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** June 15, 2022 11:39 AM  
**To:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>

## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 6:05 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir  
**Cc:** Dawn LaForme; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Khan, Muhammad; Popkin, Peter; Shams, Aniq; Downey, Jordan  
**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (SNGR)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi mir  
I can accommodate  
Thank you

Kind Regards,

Tanya j. Hill-Montour Hons. BA  
SNGREC Archaeology Supervisor  
c.226.388.0665  
e. tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca

On Jun 23, 2022, at 3:08 PM, Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com> wrote:

Good Afternoon Tanya,

I wanted to inform you that the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA will restart tomorrow. I wanted to inquire if a monitor from SNGR will be able to join our staff to monitor the fieldwork?

Please note that our staff have encountered significant amounts of ticks in the work area. We recommend that the field monitor wear tick repellent clothing as a safety precaution.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**  
Environmental Planner  
Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974  
**www.woodplc.com**

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@wsp.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 3:13 PM  
**To:** Tanya Hill-Montour; Talpur, Mir  
**Cc:** Shams, Anika; Dawn LaForme; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Khan, Muhammad; Popkin, Peter; Cary, Henry; Downey, Jordan; Kwiatkowski, Monika D  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (SNGR) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork  
**Attachments:** Merritt Meeting Location.pdf

Thank you for confirming, Tanya. Please see the details of tomorrow's work below (including meeting time and location) and the attached map.

**Start Date: October 3, 2022**

**Duration:** One, 10-hour day

**Start Time:** 8:30 am (0830)

**Consultant Company:** WSP E&I Canada Limited (Previously Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions)

**Field Director(s):** Jordan Downey, Ph.D. (Archaeology Project Manager)

**Cell Phone(s):** (437) 328-1681

**Email:** [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

**Assessment:** Borden Number (if applicable): NA

**Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Bug repellent, sun screen, face mask (if social distancing cannot be maintained)

**Meeting Location Address:** [Merritt Road / Rice Road intersection](#) (Please do not block private driveway entrance)

**Size of Field Crew:** Four

**A map outlining the site and parking area:** Please see attached and the link above.

Sincerely,



**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

He/Him

M+ 1 647-545-8974

Please be aware that, effective September 21st, 2022, Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions Canada Limited was acquired by WSP.

---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 3:00 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@wsp.com>  
**Cc:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@wsp.com>; Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com>; Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@wsp.com>; Cary, Henry <henry.c.cary@wsp.com>; Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@wsp.com>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <monika.kwiatkowski@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (SNGR) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Mir

Monika will hoin ggr team tomorrow is there details for the map and start time

Kind Regards,

Tanya j. Hill-Montour Hons. BA  
SNGREC Archaeology Supervisor  
c.226.388.0665  
e. [tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)

On Sep 29, 2022, at 6:30 PM, Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@wsp.com](mailto:mir.talpur@wsp.com)> wrote:

Hi Tanya,

Thank you for your response. Yes, there was an agreement executed for this project. I have attached it to this email.

Sincerely,

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**

Environmental Planner

*He/Him*

M+ 1 647-545-8974

Please be aware that, effective September 21st, 2022, Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions Canada Limited was acquired by WSP.

---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 6:07 PM

**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@wsp.com](mailto:anika.shams@wsp.com)>

**Cc:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com](mailto:muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@wsp.com](mailto:peter.popkin@wsp.com)>; Cary, Henry <[henry.c.cary@wsp.com](mailto:henry.c.cary@wsp.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@wsp.com](mailto:jordan.downey@wsp.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski@wsp.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski@wsp.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@wsp.com](mailto:mir.talpur@wsp.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (SNGR) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

We have interest in the project was there a agreement sent

Kind Regards,

Tanya j. Hill-Montour Hons. BA  
SNGREC Archaeology Supervisor

c.226.388.0665

e. [tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)

On Sep 29, 2022, at 2:42 PM, Shams, Aniq <[aniqa.shams@wsp.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@wsp.com)> wrote:

Hi Tanya,

We wanted to follow-up on the notification of Stage Archaeological fieldwork outlined below. The fieldwork will be occurring on **October 3, 2022** – please let us know at your earliest convenience if a monitor is available to participate, and please share their contact information.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Best regards,  
Aniq

**Aniq Shams**

Human Environment Consultant  
MCIP, RPP  
*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&I Canada Limited  
2020 Winston Park Dr #700  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6H 6X7 Canada

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

---

**From:** Shams, Aniq

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 8:16 AM

**To:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>

**Cc:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Cary, Henry <[henry.cary@woodplc.com](mailto:henry.cary@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (SNGR) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

Hi Tanya,

Following the email sent on Sept 22 notifying SNGR of the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological fieldwork, we wanted to provide additional details for the fieldwork.

Start Date: **October 3, 2022**

Duration: One, 10-hour day

Start Time: 8:30 am (0830)

Consultant Company: WSP E&I Canada Limited (Previously Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions)

Field Director(s): Jordan Downey, Ph.D. (Archaeology Project Manager)

Cell Phone(s): (437) 328-1681

Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Assessment: Borden Number (if applicable): NA

Required PPE: Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Bug repellent, sun screen, face mask (if social distancing cannot be maintained)

Meeting Location Address: [Merritt Road / Rice Road intersection](#) (Please do not block private driveway entrance)

Size of Field Crew: Four

A map outlining the site and parking area: Please see attached and the link above.

Please let us know if a monitor is available to participate, and please share their contact information.

Best regards,  
Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams**

Human Environment Consultant  
MCIP, RPP  
*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&I Canada Limited  
2020 Winston Park Dr #700  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6H 6X7 Canada

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

---

**From:** Shams, Aniqa

**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 8:54 AM

**To:** Tanya Hill-Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Cc:** Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (SNGR) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

Hi Tanya,

We wanted to notify you of upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment fieldwork occurring for the Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. This will be a continuation of previous Stage 2 Archaeological fieldwork that has already occurred on this project. The fieldwork will be taking place on **October 3, 2022**. Please do let us know if SNGR is available to participate.

We will provide additional details closer to the date.

Best regards,  
Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams**

Human Environment Consultant  
MCIP, RPP  
*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

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## Talpur, Mir

---

**From:** Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 15, 2022 9:05 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir; Dawn LaForme; Elmadhoon, Maged; Khan, Muhammad; Cary, Henry  
**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA for Segment 1 (SNGR)

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Thank you Anika

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---

**From:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@wsp.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 15, 2022 9:03:57 PM  
**To:** Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@wsp.com>; Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com>; Cary, Henry <henry.c.cary@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA for Segment 1 (SNGR)  
Good morning Tanya,  
We wanted to send you a reminder of the email below with the links to the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Segment 1. The comments are requested by January 5, 2023. If you have any trouble accessing the links below, please do not hesitate to reach out.  
Thank you,  
Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 2:14 PM  
**To:** Tanya Hill-Montour <tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca>  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@wsp.com>; Dawn LaForme <dlaforme@sixnations.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.r.khan@wsp.com>; Cary, Henry <henry.c.cary@wsp.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA for Segment 1 (SNGR)  
Hi Tanya,  
We are pleased to share the draft Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Segment 1 Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA. As a reminder, Segment 1 consists of the Merritt Road right-of-way (ROW) between Rice Road and Cataract Road.  
The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link -  
**Stage 2 Arch Report for Segment 1** -  [IM20103036 P327-0026-2022 7Dec2022 RE St2-MerritRd RiceRd RevA.pdf](#)  
**Supplementary Documentation** -  [IM20103036 P327-0026-2022 7Dec2022 SD St2-MerritRd RiceRd RevA.pdf](#)  
We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by January 5, 2023.  
Thank you,



January 31, 2024

Six Nations of the Grand River  
1695 Chiefswood Road. P.O. Box 5000  
Ohsweken, ON N0A 1M0

**Attention: Six Nations Wildlife and Stewardship Office**

SENT VIA E-MAIL ONLY

**Subject: Response to Six Nations of the Grand River's Comments  
Draft Environmental Study Report for Class Environmental Assessment Study  
for Merritt Road and Rice Road Improvements**

Hello,

Niagara Region would like to thank Six Nations Wildlife and Stewardship Office (SNWSO) for providing detailed comments on the Draft Environmental Study Report for the Class Environmental Assessment Study for Merritt Road and Rice Road Improvements (dated September 29, 2023). The Region has reviewed SNWSO's comments provided by email on November 3, 2023, and would like to share the following response in this formal letter.

This project was initiated to:

- Identify roadway improvements to accommodate growing traffic volumes along both roadways as a result of planned future development in the area;
- Provide a key transportation link that will allow for direct access between Rice Road and Highway 406 (via Merritt Road); and,
- Address active transportation needs by providing a dedicated facility for pedestrians and cyclists that is safe, attractive and keeps with the changing land use.

Niagara Region acknowledges SNWSO's comments and concerns related to project's potential impacts to the environment, including but not limited to wildlife, vegetation, trees, species at risk, floodplain, wetlands, surface water and groundwater. As part of the Class EA process, the Niagara Region completed an Environmental Impact Study (EIS), which included multi-season ecological surveys (vegetation, wildlife, and species at risk). Additional technical studies such as Hydraulic Floodplain Analyses, Wetland Hydrologic Characterization study, and Preliminary Hydrogeological Investigation were also completed to address comments from the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority related to wetland impacts and flooding impacts. The EIS made recommendations for mitigation and compensation measures, which will need to be further defined in consultation with government agencies.

Niagara Region is committed to work with the government agencies during detailed design and construction phases of the project to implement the recommendations of the EIS, including the following:

- Installation of structures over watercourses with adequate sizing and gravel base to maintain the flow of surface water and shallow groundwater in order to mitigate anticipated impacts to the form and function of wetlands within the Study Area.
- Compensation for the removal of wetland, with the objective of net gain within the watershed. The NPCA recommended a compensation ratio of not less than 2:1 to be achieved to compensate for the loss of swamps within the Study Area and 1:1 for marsh habitats removed from the Study Area.
- Installation of amphibian exclusion fencing and ecopassages to direct amphibians underneath roadways to mitigate anticipated negative impacts to local populations due to road mortality and habitat fragmentation.
- Recommendation that runoff from the road should not be allowed to run directly into wetlands, and that stormwater detention areas should be installed to intercept water prior to discharging to wetlands. Additionally, splash guards are recommended to further minimize introduction of contaminants (such as salt) into the adjacent wetlands.
- A Tree Protection Plan to identify impacted trees and to propose reasonable and implementable mitigation measures to mitigate anticipated impacts to retained trees and propose compensation for trees to be negatively impacted and/or removed. Tree compensation would be in accordance with Region's guidelines.
- Acquiring permit from the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority under *Conservation Authorities Act*, and authorization from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for species at risk under *Endangered Species Act*.
- Comprehensive compliance monitoring and effectiveness monitoring. Collectively these monitoring programs intend to demonstrate that proposed mitigation measures have been implemented as designed and function as intended.

Niagara Region values Six Nations Wildlife and Stewardship Office's feedback on this project and looks forward to continued consultation during detailed design phase. The Region will proceed to issue the Notice of Study Completion and the Environmental Study Report for public review. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Elmadhoon".

Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
Phone: 905-980-6000 (Ext. 3583)  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

cc: Mir Ahsan Talpur, Senior Environmental Planner, Consultant Project Manager, WSP

Talpur, Mir Ahsan Ali

---

From: Talpur, Mir Ahsan Ali <mir.talpur@wsp.com>  
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 9:00 AM  
To: Lauren Vanderlingen <wsma@sixnations.ca>  
Cc: Shams, Anika <aniqa.shams@wsp.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
Subject: Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Draft ESR (SNGR)  
Attachments: Merritt Road and Rice Road MCEA - Draft ESR (SNGR).pdf

Good afternoon Lauren,

Thank you for providing comments on the Draft Environmental Study Report for the Class Environmental Assessment Study for Merritt Road and Rice Road Improvements, and apology for the late response.

Please find attached the Region detailed response in a formal letter. Please be advised that Niagara Region values Six Nations Wildlife and Stewardship Office's feedback on this project and looks forward to continued consultation during the detailed design phase. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Best regards  
Maged

Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Services Division  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
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---

From: Lauren Vanderlingen <wsma@sixnations.ca>  
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 9:00 AM  
To: Shams, Anika <aniqa.shams@wsp.com>  
Cc: Lauren Jones <laurenjones@sixnations.ca>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@wsp.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
Subject: Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Draft ESR (SNGR)

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Hello Anika,

I will be reviewing the Environmental Study Report for the improvements to Merritt and Rice Road. Considering the environmental impacts to the woods and the waterbody the Six Nations Wildlife and Stewardship office feels it is pertinent to make comments.

However, I do not think I will be able to get comments back to you before October 31st. Is there any flexibility with this deadline?

Sincerely,

Lauren Vanderlingen

---

From: Lauren Jones <[laurenjones@sixnations.ca](mailto:laurenjones@sixnations.ca)>  
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2023 11:03 AM  
To: Lauren Vanderlingen <[wsma@sixnations.ca](mailto:wsma@sixnations.ca)>  
Subject: Fwd: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Draft ESR (SNGR)

Hey,

Another thing to do over my vacation

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---

From: Peter Graham <[L RCS@sixnations.ca](mailto:L RCS@sixnations.ca)>  
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2023 10:45:39 AM  
To: Lauren Jones <[laurenjones@sixnations.ca](mailto:laurenjones@sixnations.ca)>  
Subject: FW: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Draft ESR (SNGR)

Hi Lauren,

This EA might be a good one for LV when you're away. The preferred option creates a roadway going through woods and across water bodies so it's worthy of comment. Please let me know what you think.

Thanks, Peter

From: Shams, Aniga <[aniga.shams@wsp.com](mailto:aniga.shams@wsp.com)>

Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 1:33 PM

To: Peter Graham <[L RCS@sixnations.ca](mailto:L RCS@sixnations.ca)>

Cc: Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@wsp.com](mailto:mir.talpur@wsp.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Tanya Hill-

Montour <[tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca](mailto:tanyahill-montour@sixnations.ca)>; Lonny Bomberry <[lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca](mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca)>; Lauren Jones

<[laurenjones@sixnations.ca](mailto:laurenjones@sixnations.ca)>; Tayler Hill <[tayler.hill@sixnations.ca](mailto:tayler.hill@sixnations.ca)>; Dawn LaForme <[dlaforme@sixnations.ca](mailto:dlaforme@sixnations.ca)>

Subject: [External] RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Draft ESR (SNGR)

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## Aniqa Shams

Senior Social Sciences and Engagement Consultant

She/Her

M+ 1 416-357-2093

# Summary of comments on Merritt Rd- Rice Rd Improvements - Environmental Study Report

Page: 16

Page: 16


 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/23/  
2023, 3:23:57 PM Status: <None>

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Niagara Region  
Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for  
Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

### 3 Policy Context

#### 3.1 Federal Policy Context

##### 3.1.1 *Species at Risk Act*

The federal *Species at Risk Act* (S.C. 2002, c. 29) was passed into law in 2002 and was last amended on 3 February 2022. The purpose of this *Act* is to prevent wildlife species in Canada from disappearing, to provide for the recovery of wildlife species, and to manage species to prevent further risk to their status. The *Species at Risk Act* provides legal protection to species at risk listed in Schedule 1 if they have a designation of Extirpated, Endangered, or Threatened with respect to harming the species (Section 32 of the *Act*) or its residence (Section 33 of the *Act*). The *Species at Risk Act* applies to federal lands (e.g., Canada's oceans and waterways, national parks, military training areas, national wildlife areas, some migratory bird sanctuaries, and First Nations reserve lands) and outside of federal lands to the following:

- Migratory birds (i.e., those species listed under Article I of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, 1994) that also fall under Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*. This does not include the species' critical habitat; however, it does include residences of migratory birds which have residence descriptions (i.e., Barn Swallow); and

- Aquatic species that fall under Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*.

Species at risk with these federal designations require recovery strategies or conservation action plans that identify their critical habitat for mandatory prohibition from damage or destruction (Section 58 of the *Act*). Species listed as **Special Concern in Schedule 1** are not legally protected under *Species at Risk Act* but require a management plan. Species listed in Schedule 2 or 3 of the *Species at Risk Act* are not legally protected under the *Act*. Still, they require status assessment through the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) to determine conservation status and priority for recovery and action planning pursuant to Section 27 of the *Species at Risk Act*. Notably, *Species at Risk Act* prohibitions can be applied if provincial legislation or voluntary measures do not adequately protect federally listed species and their residence. Generally, compliance with provincial legislation in Ontario does satisfy the requirements under the *Species at Risk Act*.

##### Applicability to the Project

The Study Area is not located within federal lands. Therefore, the *Species at Risk Act* only applies if migratory birds that fall under Schedule 1, migratory birds which have residence descriptions, and aquatic species that fall under Schedule 1 are found in the Study Area. The *Species at Risk Act* applies to this Project concerning federally listed migratory birds that may occur. Watercourses that were considered aquatic habitat were found in the Study Area. One aquatic species listed on Schedule 1 was identified in the Natural Heritage Information Center grid search, but it occurs in the Welland Canal and not in the Study Area.

Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 7:39:01 PM Status: <None>

It is important to note that from the Indigenous Perspective all species and non-human beings on Mother Earth (wildlife, plants, the skies, waters, the land) all serve a purpose and are all worthy of protection. We as humans are no more or less important than the non-human beings.

Six Nations Wildlife and Stewardship Office (SNWSO) has a hard time supporting the federal/provincial rank system, as the only means of protecting native species. Legislation often lacks the foresight required. We as a society should work to avoid adding new species to SAR lists or prevent species from requiring legislative protection. All native species are worthy of protection, and serve a purpose within the environment, whether or not they are classified under SARA.

The vegetation and wildlife hold significant cultural importance to Six Nations (SN) people, as a source of sustenance, culture, and traditional practice.

SNWSO suggests following the mitigation hierarchy : first provide protection (avoiding), then minimizing, then mitigating, and then accommodate impacts to ALL wildlife (not just SAR) as an appropriate way to avoid infringing upon Indigenous hunting and harvesting rights.

Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 7:39:28 PM Status: <None>


Please go above and beyond what is legislatively required in order to do better by the wildlife and environment. By protecting all wildlife, whether listed under SARA/ESA or not, the proponent will be doing its part to ensure the environment has a healthy future.

Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 7:43:03 PM Status: <None>

What aquatic species?

Singers Drain outlets into the Welland canal. SNWSO does not have formal education in hydrology but could it be possible that this aquatic species may, if able and habitat allows, migrate into the study area? Maybe not in the near future, but if the waterbodies/tributaries improved to a more naturalized state in terms of water quality, habitat, and connectivity, could it be possible?




 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 7:51:52 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO has a difficult time supporting this policy and way society has deemed infrastructure to be more important than the environment. There is no sense in building through a flood plain or a wetland, as this will have unpredictable impacts to the natural cycle of the ecosystems.

Maybe the infrastructure designs will work for a few years, but eventually Mother Earth will prove to the engineers, planners, and people that we know very little about nature.

Flooding is already a major issue in this area, SNWSO believes that it will continue to be a problem for this area. It is the Indigenous perspective to allow Mother Earth to just be, rather than trying to contain, control, and compartmentalize; she will take care of us, if we take care of her.

We as humans need the environment to survive. The environment does not need us.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/29/2023, 7:34:49 PM Status: <None>

How will the impacts be "addressed"? Will the wetland have a buffer? How will the lost ecological services be accommodated? SNWSO recommends the proponent use a 30m buffer as a minimum, however the Natural Heritage Reference Manual (2005) recommends using a 120m buffer to minimize impacts to the health and function of wetlands.

**Niagara Region  
Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for  
Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)**

**Applicability to the Project**

Permits under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* are contractor specific, whereby the individual undertaking the work to rescue and relocate or collect wildlife and/or fish will be the responsible party required to obtain the necessary permits and approvals. The probability that wildlife is found in the Study Area and does not leave on their own accord is medium to high. As such, permits/approvals under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* are expected to be necessary during construction.

**3.2.6 NPCA Policy Document**

The NPCA Policy Document: Policies for the Administration of Ontario Regulation 155/06 and the Planning Act (September 2018) provides principles, objectives, and policies for the administration of the NPCA's mandate under Ontario Regulation 155/06, as well as its delegated roles and responsibilities within the planning and approvals process.

**Applicability to the Project**


Policy 4.2.2 of this document permits infrastructure within flood plain areas provided that an approval under the Environmental Assessment Act, and that the approved engineering designs recognize and, where necessary, address the flooding potential at the site. In addition, Policy 8.2.4 allows for public infrastructure through wetlands subject to the following criteria:

- The proposed infrastructure is supported by the completion of an appropriate Environmental Assessment or a Comprehensive EIS to the satisfaction of the Authority;
- No reasonable alternate location for the infrastructure exists outside of the wetland;
- Any impacts to flood flows, flood storage or groundwater movement are mitigated;
- The proposed infrastructure is designed to fully address impacts to the existing hydrological function, hydrological regime and ecological function of the wetland and adjacent lands; and
- Infrastructure approved through an environmental assessment process shall require a work permit to develop from the NPCA.

**3.3 Regional Policy Context**

**3.3.1 Niagara Region Official Plan**

Niagara Region's newest Official Plan came into effect on November 4, 2022. This plan is Niagara Region's long-term, strategic policy planning framework for managing growth in the Region. The policies of this Plan are intended to guide land use and development thereby influencing economic, environmental, and planning decisions until 2051 and beyond. In simple terms, the Niagara Official Plan identifies: what needs to be protected; how and where growth will occur; and policy tools to manage the same.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 7:52:57 PM Status: <None>

Please clarify what geometric improvements are?  
Is this just the expansion, re-grade, and integration of medians/sidewalks/multi-use pathways (expected for the urban-general cross sections?)

**Niagara Region  
Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for  
Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)**

**Table 4-1: Summary of Characteristics of Road Segments within the Study Area**

Road Segment	Road Characterization	Existing Right-of-Way	Ultimate Right-of-Way	Posted Speed Limit
Segment 1 - Merritt Rd from Rice Rd to Cataract Rd	Unopened road allowance	20 m	26 m <sup>1</sup>	N/A
Segment 2 - Merritt Rd from Cataract Rd to Niagara St	2 lanes, rural, local, undivided roadway	20 m	26 m <sup>2</sup>	50 km/h
Segment 3 - Merritt Rd from Niagara St to Hwy 406	2 lanes, rural, arterial, undivided roadway	30 m	35 m <sup>2</sup>	60 km/h
Segment 4 - Rice Rd from Merritt Rd to Quaker Rd	2 lanes, rural, arterial, undivided roadway	20 m (from Quaker Rd to Rosewood Crst) 23 m (from Rosewood Crst to Merritt Rd)	26.2 m <sup>2</sup>	60 km/h (Town of Pelham portion) 50 km/h (City of Welland portion)

#### 4.1.2 Street Lighting

There are no streetlights located along Segments 1 and 2, whereas Segment 3 includes streetlights at the intersection of Merritt Road and Niagara Street and on Merritt Road, east of Grisdale Road. In addition, there are some streetlights located along Segment 4.

#### 4.2 Existing and Future Traffic Conditions

A transportation assessment was completed to determine the existing traffic conditions for the existing (base year) and future conditions (horizon years). 2020 was established as the base year (this is when the Class EA Study was initiated), and years 2031 and 2041 were established as future horizon years. The following two scenarios were analyzed for each of the future (2031 and 2041) horizon years:

##### Scenario 1 – Do Nothing

In this scenario, the traffic assessments were undertaken based on 2031 and 2041 traffic forecasts on the existing road network. The assessments were completed assuming that no improvements were implemented for either future horizon year (i.e., no capacity improvements were undertaken, and Merritt Road was not extended to provide a connection between Cataract Road and Rice Road).


##### Scenario 2 – With Improvements

In Scenario 2, the traffic assessments for 2031 and 2041 horizon years were undertaken on the modified road network assuming the implementation of proposed improvements for each horizon year. The proposed improvements included the Merritt Road extension between Rice Road and Cataract Road, intersection control modifications, and **geometric improvements along the corridor**.

As part of the transportation assessment, a roadway capacity analysis, a multi-modal assessment, and an intersection capacity analysis was completed. The roadway

<sup>1</sup> City of Thorold Official Plan (2016)

<sup>2</sup> Niagara Region Official Plan (2022)

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/29/2023, 4:23:05 PM Status: <None>

If the links operate well below capacity at this time, is there really the need to expand the road segments? SNWSO believes that it may not be as the future growth is only a prediction.

**Niagara Region  
Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for  
Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)**

**4.2.1.2 Existing (2020) Conditions Link Capacity Analysis**

The results summarized in Table 4-2 and Table 4-3 indicate that **all the links operate well below capacity under existing conditions**. The lane capacity for rural roads within the study area is assumed to be 850 vehicles per hour per lane, with the exception of the Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Merrittville Highway (i.e., Segment 2) due to its cross-section. This segment is a narrow road with speed humps and a lane capacity of 500 Vehicles per hour per lane.


The findings of the assessment indicated that under existing conditions, all links are operating well below capacity, with no volume to capacity ratios above the critical threshold of 0.85.

**Table 4-2: Link Capacity Analysis – Existing (2020) AM Peak Hour**

Segment	Direction	# Of Lanes	Total Capacity (Vehicle/Hour/lane)	Volume (Vehicle/Hour)	Volume to Capacity Ratio (V/C)
Merritt Road (East of Niagara Street / Merrittville Highway)	EB	1	850	556	0.65
Merritt Road (East of Niagara Street/Merrittville Highway)	WB	1	850	526	0.62
Merritt Road (East of Cataract Road)	EB	1	500	69	0.14
Merritt Road (East of Cataract Road)	WB	1	500	142	0.28
Rice Road (North of Quaker Road)	NB	1	850	348	0.41
Rice Road (North of Quaker Road)	SB	1	850	268	0.32
Rice Road (North of Merritt Road)	NB	1	850	495	0.58
Rice Road (North of Merritt Road)	SB	1	850	268	0.32

**Table 4-3: Link Capacity Analysis – Existing (2020) PM Peak Hour**

Segment	Direction	# Of Lanes	Total Capacity (Vehicle/Hour /lane)	Volume (Vehicle/Hour)	Volume to Capacity Ratio (V/C)
Merritt Road (East of Niagara Street / Merrittville Highway)	EB	1	850	538	0.63
Merritt Road (East of Niagara Street/Merrittville Highway)	WB	1	850	635	0.75
Merritt Road (East of Cataract Road)	EB	1	500	80	0.16
Merritt Road (East of Cataract Road)	WB	1	500	136	0.27
Rice Road (North of Quaker Road)	NB	1	850	340	0.40
Rice Road (North of Quaker Road)	SB	1	850	342	0.40
Rice Road	NB	1	850	357	0.42

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 7:58:29 PM Status: <None>

If the improvements/expansions to the roads will not assist in alleviating congestion, and will be approaching, or will be over capacity (v/c >0.85 or LOS D-F), by 2031; please explain how these designs for road expansion solve the original problem? If construction and environmental destruction is going to occur, please ensure that the designs and construction accomplish the original goal to alleviate any traffic problems for several decades into the future.

There is no sense in constructing wider roads, cutting down trees, and impacting wetlands in order to accommodate future increased traffic, if the roads intended to handle increased capacity will still be over capacity a few years down the line. If the environmental destruction is to occur, please ensure designs can actually handle future traffic, so that reoccurring construction and environmental impacts do not have to occur every ~10 years. The preservation of the environment should be priority. If the proponent is going to do it, do it once. \*\*\*

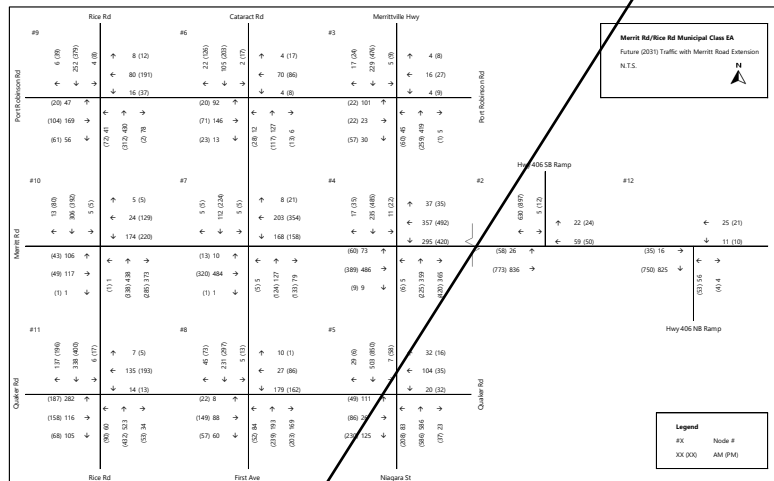
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#### 4.2.2.2 2031 Future Traffic Demand – Scenario 2

With the inclusion of the Merritt Road extension between Rice Road and Cataract Road, there will be a noticeable increase in traffic along Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street. There will be a corresponding decrease in traffic along Quaker Road and Niagara Street (compared to Scenario 1).

Travel patterns indicate that most eastbound and westbound traffic along Merritt Road is associated with trips to and from Highway 406. Without the proposed Merritt Road extension, eastbound traffic accessing Highway 406 originating from areas west in the Town of Pelham must travel on Rice Road north to Highway 20 or south via Quaker Road and Niagara Street. Similarly, traffic moving westbound from Highway 406 would use either Highway 20/Rice Road or Niagara Street/Quaker Road to access areas west in the Town of Pelham. The Merritt Road extension offers more direct access, alleviating congestion associated with the above longer routes. The forecasted traffic volumes are illustrated in the following figure.


Figure 4-16: Future (2031) Traffic Volumes (Scenario 2)



#### 2031 Conditions Link Capacity Analysis – Scenario 2

The results of link capacity analysis summarized in Table 4-29 and

Table 4-30 demonstrate that with the proposed right of way and geometric improvements, with the widening of Merritt Road to a four-lane cross-section between Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street and the Highway 406 interchange, none of the study area segments will have traffic exceeding capacity by 2031. However, Rice Road between Quaker Road and Merritt Road will approach capacity for northbound movements in the AM peak hour and PM peak hour.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/29/2023, 4:29:01 PM Status: <None>

This is approaching capacity. Please refer to previous comment.

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Segment	Direction	Lane Capacity	# Of Lanes	Total Capacity (Vehicle/Hour/lane)	Volume (Vehicle/Hour)	Volume to Capacity Ratio (V/C)
Merritt Road (East of Niagara Street / Merrittville Highway)	WB	850	2	1700	840	0.49
Merritt Road (East of Cataract Road)	EB	850	1	850	703	0.83
Merritt Road (East of Cataract Road)	WB	850	1	850	460	0.54
Rice Road (North of Quaker Road)	NB	850	2	1700	978	0.58
Rice Road (North of Quaker Road)	SB	850	2	1700	579	0.34
Rice Road (North of Merritt Road)	NB	850	1	850	674	0.79
Rice Road (North of Merritt Road)	SB	850	1	850	390	0.46

**Table 4-57: 2041 Link Capacity Analysis – Scenario 2 – PM Peak Hour**


Segment	Direction	Lane Capacity	# Of Lanes	Total Capacity (Vehicle/Hour/lane)	Volume (Vehicle/Hour)	Volume to Capacity Ratio (V/C)
Merritt Road (East of Niagara Street / Merrittville Highway)	EB	850	2	1700	1097	0.65
Merritt Road (East of Niagara Street / Merrittville Highway)	WB	850	2	1700	1188	0.70
Merritt Road (East of Cataract Road)	EB	850	1	850	549	0.65
Merritt Road (East of Cataract Road)	WB	850	1	850	641	0.75
Rice Road (North of Quaker Road)	NB	850	2	1700	722	0.42
Rice Road (North of Quaker Road)	SB	850	2	1700	707	0.42
Rice Road (North of Merritt Road)	NB	850	1	850	469	0.55
Rice Road (North of Merritt Road)	SB	850	1	850	566	0.67

**2041 Intersection Capacity Analysis – Scenario 2**

Signal Warrant Analysis:

Signal warrant analyses were conducted for the following five intersections:

- Rice Road / Quaker Road,
- Rice Road / Merritt Road,
- Merritt Road / Cataract Road,
- Merrittville Highway / Port Robinson Road, and

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 7:59:55 PM Status: <None>

Many of these intersections will still have poorly graded LOS (D-F). Please clarify how the roadway expansions and addition of signalized intersections are going to reduce congestion and increase the flow of traffic?

Again, if road works are to occur they should be done in a manner that does not require upgrades, and thus more environmental destruction, every 10 years or so.

The congestion/slow travel seem to be an ongoing issue in these scenarios and SNWSO believes the risks of environmental impacts/destruction are not worth the minimal benefits for travel.

SNWSO is struggling to see how the road construction works will improve beyond what is already existing.

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- volume of southbound through vehicles and high demand for northbound left turns, addition of a southbound through lane through the intersection may be beneficial in future.
- If Cataract Road and Merritt Road is signalized by 2041, minor operating problems are expected, including an eastbound volume to capacity ratio of 0.91 and LOS D during the AM peak hour and LOS D during the afternoon peak hour.
  - First Avenue/Cataract Road and Quaker Road would need to be signalized by 2041 with left turn lanes for each approach. With longer storage of 50 meters for the westbound left turnlane, and an eastbound protected-permitted left turn phase, all volume to capacity ratios will be below 1.00. The eastbound volume to capacity ratio will be slightly above the threshold of 0.85, at 0.87 during the PM peak hour, and the approach will have LOS D during both peak hours.
  - With signalization and left turn lanes on each approach at Rice Road and Port Robinson Road, all volume to capacity ratios will be below 0.85 during each of the peak hours.. The westbound approach is expected to have LOS D in the PM peak hour and the eastbound approach is expected to have LOS D during the AM peak hour.
  - At the intersection of Rice Road and Merritt Road, the westbound left turn is expected to have minor delays with LOS D during the AM peak hour, and the eastbound left, eastbound through/right and westbound left and westbound left turn movements are expected to have minor delays with LOS D in the PM peak;
  - Rice Road and Quaker Road minor delays are expected for the westbound through and right turn with LOS D in the AM and PM peak hours;
- Figure 4-23 illustrates the critical movements.

**Table 4-58: 2041 Signalized Intersection Operations – Scenario 2 – Niagara Street / Merrittville Hwy and Merritt Road**

Lane	Weekly Morning Peak Hour Performance Measures				Weekly Afternoon Peak Hour Performance Measures				Storage (meters)
	Volume to Capacity Ratio	Average Vehicle Delay (seconds)	Level of Service	95 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Queue Length (meters)	Volume to Capacity Ratio	Average Vehicle Delay (seconds)	Level of Service	95 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Queue Length (meters)	
EBL	0.40	30.2	C	27	0.47	38.8	D	25	90
EBTR	0.67	30.3	C	67	0.65	33.1	C	56	150
WBL	0.93	46.9	D	#89	1.06	71.9	E	#149	65
WBTR	0.32	13.1	B	35	0.40	12.8	B	46	1297
NBL	0.02	19.3	B	3	0.09	23.9	C	5	30
NBT	0.81	39.1	D	#117	0.58	29.4	C	68	1000
NBR	0.68	10.6	B	48	0.78	11.8	B	54	40
SBL	0.10	21.4	C	7	0.18	24.4	C	11	40
SBTR	0.40	22.1	C	40	0.84	35.3	D	93	1000
Overall	-	-	C	-	-	-	C	-	-

Notes

#: 95<sup>th</sup> percentile volume exceeds capacity, a queue may be longer

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/29/2023, 4:40:08 PM Status: <None>

Please refer to previous comments.

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**Table 4-67: 2041 Unsignalized Intersection Operations – Scenario 2 – Hwy 406 NB Ramp and Merritt Rd**

Lane	Weekly Morning Peak Hour Performance Measures				Weekly Afternoon Peak Hour Performance Measures				Storage (meters)
	Volume to Capacity Ratio	Average Vehicle Delay (seconds)	Level of Service	95 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Queue Length (meters)	Volume to Capacity Ratio	Average Vehicle Delay (seconds)	Level of Service	95 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Queue Length (meters)	
EBT	0.01	0.0	-	0	0.03	0.0	-	0	340
EBR	0.71	0.0	-	0	0.69	0.0	-	0	200
WBL	0.01	7.3	A	0	0.01	7.3	A	0	65
WBT	0.02	0.0	-	0	0.02	0.0	-	0	198
NBLR	0.09	9.3	A	2	0.09	9.6	A	2	501/180

For the remaining unsignalized intersections:

- At Merrittville Highway and Port Robinson Road, the eastbound left-through-right movement is critical in the AM and PM peak hours (v/c 1.89 and 0.98, LOS F). The Westbound left-through-right movement is also a critical movement in the AM peak hour with LOS E and in the PM peak hour with LOS F. This intersection is modelled with a highly conservative PHF; performance may be better than forecast with a higher PHF in future. However, it is expected that additional improvements such as signalization will be required at this intersection to manage traffic demand acceptably in the future;
- For the intersection of Cataract Road and Port Robinson Road, with existing traffic control, minor delays are expected for the southbound approach, with LOS D in the PM peak hour; and
- No issues were identified at the Merritt Road and Highway 406 Northbound Ramp.

The results reflect that the extension of Merritt Road between Cataract Road and Rice Road would allow rerouting the high travel demand from Quaker Road to Merritt Road. In addition, the extension would allow vehicles to access the Highway 406 ramps directly via Merritt Road in addition to via Niagara Street.



**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:05:41 PM Status: <None>

This segment is likely used as a wildlife corridor for many species. Bats, deer, birds, and herpetofauna are likely using this corridor.

Have studies for culturally important species, in addition to other wildlife/ SAR been completed?

These areas provide deer overwintering and breeding areas, which is important to Indigenous communities for cultural and subsistence purposes, removing sections of these woodlands will impact Indigenous harvesting treaty rights.

SNWSO encourages the proponent to note species of cultural importance within the wildlife and vegetation surveys, in order to properly assess the impacts to Indigenous peoples treaty rights, this will help to include the Indigenous perspective into the EA.

**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 2:54:55 PM Status: <None>

How large of a buffer will be allotted to the provincially significant wetlands (PSW) and woodlands?

Please note that the Natural Heritage Reference Manual (2005) encourages a buffer of 120m for PSW and woodlands.

SNWSO encourages the proponent to allot a bare minimum buffer of 30m for both.

It is the Indigenous Perspective that we are obligated to the future. The decisions we make today should protect Mother Earth for the next 7 generations to use. SNWSO encourages the proponent to go above and beyond what is legislatively required to protect wildlife, and their habitats. Even relatively small patches of wetland and woodlands can be home for a significant number of species.

**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:08:58 PM Status: <None>

How will these wetlands and woodlands be protected?

Again, SNWSO encourages the proponent to follow the mitigation hierarchy.

Will the proponent avoid these habitats to the greatest extent possible?  
Will the proponent use a large buffer to minimize impacts to these habitats?

What mitigation and accommodation measures might be taken? For

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**4.3 Social Environment**

**4.3.1 Land-use**

Existing land-uses to the north and south of **Segment 1** are predominantly provincially significant wetlands and woodlands with residences and agricultural land-uses along the Rice Road intersection (Figure 4-24).

**Figure 4-24: Land-uses Along Segment 1**



Existing land-uses along Segment 2 are predominantly residential on the north side and predominantly provincially significant wetlands and woodlands on the south side (Figure 4-25). There are commercial land-uses along the Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street intersection.

**Figure 4-25: Land-uses Along Segment 2**



Existing land-uses along Segment 3 are predominantly provincially significant wetlands and woodlands on the north side (Figure 4-26), and predominantly residential on the south side (Merritt Meadows subdivision with access via Eastman Gateway and Grisdale Road).



## 4.3 Social Environment

### 4.3.1 Land-use

Existing land-uses to the north and south of **Segment 1** are predominantly provincially **significant wetlands and woodlands** with residences and agricultural land-uses along the Rice Road intersection (Figure 4-24).

Figure 4-24: Land-uses Along Segment 1



Existing land-uses along Segment 2 are predominantly residential on the north side and **predominantly provincially significant wetlands and woodlands** on the south side (Figure 4-25). There are commercial land-uses along the Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street intersection.

Figure 4-25: Land-uses Along Segment 2



Existing land-uses along Segment 3 are **predominantly provincially significant wetlands and woodlands** on the north side (Figure 4-26), and predominantly residential on the south side (Merritt Meadows subdivision with access via Eastman Gateway and Grisdale Road).

example will the proponent install bird and bat boxes, plant trees, habitat offsets etc?

SNWSO advocates for to a 10:1 tree replacement ratio, no matter what diameter at breast height (DBH), to ensure that mitigation efforts are adequate for the ecological services lost. For example: 2 saplings cannot account for the ecosystem services that mature (or established) trees created (wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, water filtration and retention, soil stabilization and nutrients, cooling/shading, aesthetics etc). Those 2 sapling may not even survive, which is why SNWSO recommends the 10:1 ratio, to account for high tree mortality, deer browsing, vandalism etc.. This 10:1 ratio will also help to secure climate resiliency, minimize impacts on the environment, and will ensure the proponent is doing their part to secure a healthy environment for future generations.

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Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:10:40 PM Status: <None>

If the proponent cannot avoid impacting these PSW and woodlands will habitat offsets be considered as an accommodation measure? SNWSO recommends using a habitat offset ratio of 3:1 for habitat created off-site, and at least 2:1 if the area is connected to the original habitat. These areas should be placed under permanent protection, so that future development will not pave over these good intentions.

There is some concern given that wetland offsets historically have not worked very well, in a lot of areas and in many different ways. The best option is to avoid impacting these PSWs and woodlands entirely.

Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:10:57 PM Status: <None>

How large of a buffer will the proponent give the agricultural lands so that construction and operation of the roadway does not contaminate quality agricultural lands?

Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:16:00 PM Status: <None>

From the Indigenous Perspective cultural heritage is the environment or natural heritage: the waters, forests, skies, wildlife, and the lands. As for thousands of years, Indigenous peoples have relied on natural landscapes (waters, forests etc) to survive.

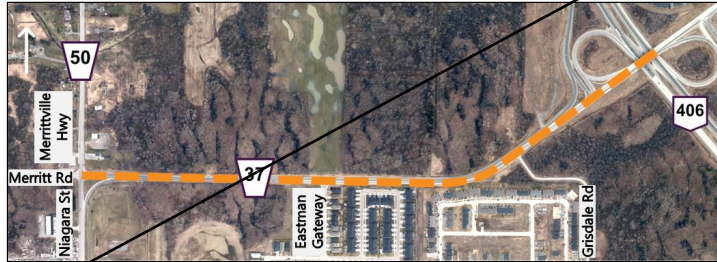
The buildings that settlers have placed on the landscape are not necessarily relevant to the Indigenous cultural heritage.

Cultural heritage is natural heritage, they are one in the same and you cannot separate the environment from Indigenous heritage.

Please keep this in mind when assessing for cultural heritage landscapes.

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Figure 4-26: Land-uses Along Segment 3



Land-uses on the east and west side of Rice Road are predominantly residential and agricultural (Figure 4-27). In addition, Niagara Catholic District School Board building is located on the southwest quadrant of Rice Road and Quaker Road intersection.

Figure 4-27: Land-uses Along Segment 4




## 4.4 Cultural Environment

### 4.4.1 Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes

A Cultural Heritage Assessment Report was prepared by WSP to establish the historical context of the Study Area, identify protected and potential built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes, and complete an impact assessment to identify anticipated impacts of the project to identified heritage properties. Where impacts were anticipated, mitigation measures were prepared as part of the Cultural Heritage Assessment Report.

The Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism's (MCM) "Ontario Heritage Toolkit" gives guidance and information on the heritage conservation process in Ontario. Specifically, the information sheets contained in the "Heritage Resources in the Land Use Planning Process: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Policies of the Ontario Provincial Policy Statement, 2005" were used to guide the general preparation of Cultural Heritage Assessment Report.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/29/2023, 5:37:45 PM Status: <None>

Will land use studies before settler colonization be undertaken?

As previously noted, Indigenous Peoples have been using the environment as their homes for thousands of years, well beyond settler history in North America began.

Please endeavor to assess the land uses pre-colonization. .

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The City of Thorold, City of Welland, Town of Pelham, Ontario Heritage Trust, and MCM were contacted directly via email to gather information regarding protected and potential heritage properties within, and adjacent to the Study Area. In addition, to identify properties with potential cultural heritage value, the following online sources were reviewed:


- Ontario Heritage Act Register (Ontario Heritage Trust 2019)
- Plaques Database (Ontario Database 2019)
- Heritage Welland Designations (2021)
- Welland Heritage Place of Interest (2021)
- Heritage Thorold Designated Properties (2018)
- Canadian Heritage Rivers System (2017)
- Designated Heritage Railway Stations in Ontario (2017)
- National Historic Sites, Designated Lighthouses, Ontario (2019)
- Canada, Properties inscribed on the World Heritage List (UNESCO 2021)
- Northwest Welland Secondary Plan Cultural Heritage Resource Assessment Study Existing Conditions Report, City of Welland, Ontario (ASI 2018)

As part of background research, various information sources, historical maps, and aerial photographs were consulted, as appropriate, to identify historical themes relevant to the Study Area. Specifically, research regarding the physiography, survey and settlement, 19<sup>th</sup> century land use, and 20<sup>th</sup> century land use of the Study Area was completed. A review of historical mapping and aerial photographs was also conducted to identify settlements, structures, and landscape features within, and adjacent to, the Study Area. Historical maps from 1906, 1907, 1908, 1915, 1920, 1925, 1928, 1930, 1938, 1939, and 1942 were reviewed. In addition, recent aerial photographs and Google Earth imagery were reviewed to identify changes within, and adjacent to, the Study Area.

A field review of the Study Area was completed by WSP's Cultural Heritage Specialist, on February 3, 2021, to identify protected or potential heritage properties, including both built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes. During the field review, the 40-year 'rule of thumb' was used to identify properties with the potential to have *Cultural Heritage Value or Interest* (CHVI). The 40-year rule is generally accepted by federal and provincial agencies as a preliminary screening measure for CHVI. It should be noted, however, that the 40-year threshold is a guide only and does not imply that all properties of 40 years of age have CHVI. Nor does it exclude properties that are less than 40 years of age and exhibit Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. The professional judgement of WSP's Cultural Heritage Specialist was used during the field review to apply the 40-year rule and identify properties with potential CHVI.

Following the completion of background research, consultation, and a field review, it was determined that there are three (3) built heritage resources and five (5) cultural heritage landscapes within, or adjacent to, the Study Area. Identified built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes are listed in Table 4-69.




Cultural Heritage Assessment Report was shared with the local Indigenous Communities and the MCM staff for review and comment. The Cultural Heritage Assessment Report is provided in Appendix B.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 9:35:01 PM Status: <None>

Disuse by humans, however, has any consideration been given to the non-human beings that may be using this old roadway as a wildlife corridor.

It is the Indigenous perspective that all native wildlife is worthy of protection, as they all play a critical role in the functioning of ecosystems. But it is not just the wildlife that are worthy of protection, the landscapes and habitats themselves are also worthy. There are invaluable ecological services that each ecosystem, habitat, and landscape provide. To diminish the value of a habitat is to simultaneously diminish the value of wildlife.

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CHR No.	Type	Location	Heritage Recognition	Description of Property	Photographs/Digital Image
CHR7	CHL Roadscape	Hansler Road	Identified during field review	Hansler Road is a historically surveyed road first depicted on 1858 mapping. It is presently a gravel road used by mobile trade with no lane markings which does not appear to have been widened in recent years. Portions of the road located south of 1321 Hansler Road are overgrown from disuse.	
CHR8	CHL Niagara Regional Agricultural Society	1100 Niagara Street	Identified during field review	The Niagara Regional Exhibition property landscape features two (2) buildings, a barn, grandstands and infield, a horseshow ring, poultry building and a camping area (Niagara Regional Exhibition 2021). The main building (east elevation) has a rectangular plan and a low gable roof with a mural and sign reading "Niagara Regional Exhibition". The one and a half-story barn structure (east elevation) has a rectangular plan with a gambrel roof clad in red shingle siding and a pair of two double hung windows (upper level). Visible from Niagara Street are three outbuildings with rectangular plans and low gable roofs and the grandstands. Currently owned and operated by the Niagara Regional Agricultural Society the exhibition had its beginnings in 1852 when it was first located at Ephraim Hopkins' farm and has remained in operation for over 150 years. When the fair reached its limitation on their 16 acres the Welland County Agricultural Society, on May 31, 1967, purchased 75 acres at the junction of highways 406 and 58 (Niagara Regional Exhibition 2021).	 


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- The Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario range maps (Dobbyn, 1994);
- Mammals of the Great Lakes Region range maps (Kurta, 1995);
- The Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (ORAA) (Ontario Nature, 2022);
- The Ontario Butterfly Atlas (OBA) (MacNaughton, 2021);
- Natural Heritage data extracted from Land Information Ontario (LIO)/GeoHub (MNRF, 2022);
- Online DFO Aquatic SAR map (Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2022);
- ELC data from the NPCA (Natural Areas Inventory (NAI) Ecological Land Classification (ELC) Community Series (CS) level DRAFT) (NPCA, 2019);
- Natural Areas Inventory – Study Site PL -10 Rose Little Woods – Merritt Road Swamp (Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, 2010);
- Port Robinson West Scoped Subwatershed Update and Servicing Plan (Aquafor Beech Limited, 2014);
- Port Robinson West Subwatershed Study Final Report (Totten Sim Hubicki Associates, Ray Blackport, Natural Resource Solutions, Hynde Paul, 1999);
- Town of Pelham's East Fonthill Secondary Plan (EFSP) (The Planning Partnership, 2015);
- City of Thorold's Port Robinson Secondary Plan (PRSP);
- City of Welland Northwest Welland Secondary Plan (NWWSP);
- Merritt Meadows subdivision EIS (provided by the Region if available);
- Stormwater Management Plan Hansler Heights City of Thorold; and
- Where applicable hydrologic and hydraulic assessments (including stormwater management assessment) and hydrogeological assessment completed for the project, were reviewed and incorporated to characterize the hydrology of the wetlands.


**Note:** The NHIC database utilizes a 1 km x 1 km system, while the OBBA, ORAA, and OBA, utilize a 10 km x 10 km system. Both systems generate a list of species that are documented within the specific square. It is important to note that the recorded presence of a specific species must be viewed in conjunction with existing habitat conditions (e.g., watercourses that are now dry or **ephemeral** cannot be expected to support the same fisheries community that they may have in the past). Likewise, the 10 km grid encompasses an area larger than the Study Area. Species of conservation concern, including SAR, have been considered in the SAR screening as habitat may not occur in the Study Area (i.e., the record comes from anywhere in the 10 km square). As such, records/element occurrences do not confirm or necessarily indicate species presence within the Study Area.

**4.5.1.2 Field Investigations**

Following the desktop-based review of secondary source information resources, various field investigations were completed. These field investigations were completed in accordance with applicable standards, guidelines and procedures, as outlined below:

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:17:24 PM Status: <None>

While ephemeral waterbodies may not support consistent fish habitat, they may support habitat for other species such as salamanders, birds, frogs, insects (dragonflies), distinct plant species. Please do not discredit the habitat these waterbodies present.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:22:29 PM Status: <None>

The absence of a species is harder to prove than their presence. Just because a SAR species was not found during the survey periods does not mean that the study area, or within 10km of the study area does not provide direct or supporting habitat. Many species have a range of habitats that may be used for breeding or feeding grounds. Other species including reptiles and birds have bi-annual cycles for their habitats, meaning they may switch between habitat locations depending on the conditions existing in that year. Different species have various ranges for travel, some wildlife species may travel large distances and may move in and out of the study area.

These records may indicate that the study area is being used or is within a species range for travel, breeding, feeding etc.

SNWSO recommends the use of multi-year, multi-season studies in order to account for the variability in wildlife cycles, and to create a more comprehensive understanding of the study area.

SNWSO also encourage the proponent to consider the habitats for all wildlife, not just SAR.



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- **Aquatic Habitat Assessments** were completed following the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) Environmental Guide for Fish and Fish Habitat (Ministry of Transportation Ontario, 2013).
- **Ecological Land Classification/vegetation communities** were delineated using aerial photography and ground-truthing in spring, summer, and fall seasons. Ecological Land Classification was completed following the First Approximation and Second Approximation Ecological Land Classification (Lee, et al., 1998) and (Lee H., 2008). The occurrence of Ecological Land Classification communities was cross-referenced with provincially significant vegetation communities as identified in the Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, 2000). Vegetation communities were also used to screen for significant wildlife habitat using the Significant Wildlife Habitat Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 7E (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2015).
- **Breeding Bird Surveys** were completed following the Forest Bird Monitoring Protocol (Ralph, Sauer, & Droege, 1995). Guidelines for dates of breeding bird surveys from Environment and Climate Change Canada were used. Activity seen and heard directly relates to breeding evidence described in the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas Guide for Participants (2020).
- **Amphibians/Anuran Call Surveys** were completed at aquatic habitats in the Study Area, based on the protocol outlined in the Marsh Monitoring Program Participant's Handbook for Surveying Amphibians (Bird Studies Canada, 2009 Edition).
- **Incidental Wildlife Surveys** comprised of documenting any wildlife sightings, evidence or signs of wildlife use, or other things of note during the species-specific surveys listed above.

The table below lists the field investigations completed as part of the development of the EIS.

**Table 4-70: Natural Environment Field Investigations**

Field Survey Type	Date	General Weather
Fall Plant Inventory and ELC	September 30, 2020	10°C, no wind, cloudy, rainy
Amphibians / Anuran Call Survey 1	April 13, 2021	6°C, low wind, no clouds, no rain
Amphibians / Anuran Call Survey 2	May 13, 2021	12°C, light wind, no clouds, no rain
Amphibians / Anuran Call Survey 3	June 9, 2021	27°C, no wind, no clouds, no rain
Breeding Bird Survey 1	June 10, 2021	16°C, no wind, no clouds, no rain
Breeding Bird Survey 2	June 30, 2021	27°C, mostly cloud, no wind, no rain
Aquatic Habitat Assessments	July 21, 2021	18°C, no wind, partly overcast, no rain
Summer Plant Inventory and ELC	July 29, 2021	23°C, partly cloudy, light wind, no rain
Summer Plant Inventory and ELC	July 30, 2021	18°C, partly cloudy, light wind, no rain
Fall Plant Inventory and ELC	September 15, 2021	25°C, no clouds, light wind, no rain
Fall Plant Inventory and ELC	September 16, 2021	20°C, partly cloudy, light wind, no rain
Spring Plant Inventory	May 6, 2022	10°C, partly cloudy, windy, no rain
Spring Plant Inventory	May 20, 2022	18°C, partly cloudy, windy, no rain

**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:23:47 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO encourages the proponent to adopt a multi-season, multi-year survey effort (using BMPs) to create a comprehensive understanding of the wildlife and habitat present.

This approach allows surveyors to account for any seasonal or annual variability and to better understand the wildlife using the area. A comprehensive picture should be created in order to fully understand the impacts that development activities will have and to appropriately avoid, minimize, then mitigate/ accommodate those impacts.

**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:29:43 PM Status: <None>

Did these amphibian /anuran consider protocol to assess the presence of non-calling amphibians such as salamanders?

Were surveys conducted for herpetofauna such as turtles and snakes?

Turtles tend to be of great cultural importance to Indigenous Nations, even turtles not considered as SAR hold importance. It is important to SNWSO that the proponent conducts comprehensive surveys, and takes every mitigation approach possible to protect the livelihood of the turtles that may be present within the study area.

### Resources:

#### Salamanders:

Strain, G.F., Raesly, R.L., and Hilderbrand, R.H. (2009). **A comparison of techniques to sample salamander assemblages along highland streams of Maryland**. Environmental Monitoring Assessment, 156: 1-4. DOI:10.1007/s10661-008-0459-3

#### **Environment and Climate Change Canada. (2023). Recovery Strategy for Jefferson Salamander (*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*).**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/recovery-strategies/jefferson-salamander-unisexual-ambystoma.html>

#### Turtles:

#### **MNRF. (2015). Survey Protocol for Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) in Ontario.**

[https://files.ontario.ca/mnrf\\_survey\\_protocol\\_for\\_blandings\\_turtle\\_in\\_ontario\\_2015\\_.pdf](https://files.ontario.ca/mnrf_survey_protocol_for_blandings_turtle_in_ontario_2015_.pdf)

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- **Aquatic Habitat Assessments** were completed following the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) Environmental Guide for Fish and Fish Habitat (Ministry of Transportation Ontario, 2013).
- **Ecological Land Classification/vegetation communities** were delineated using aerial photography and ground-truthing in spring, summer, and fall seasons. Ecological Land Classification was completed following the First Approximation and Second Approximation Ecological Land Classification (Lee, et al., 1998) and (Lee H., 2008). The occurrence of Ecological Land Classification communities was cross-referenced with provincially significant vegetation communities as identified in the Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, 2000). Vegetation communities were also used to screen for significant wildlife habitat using the Significant Wildlife Habitat Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 7E (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2015).
- **Breeding Bird Surveys** were completed following the Forest Bird Monitoring Protocol (Ralph, Sauer, & Droege, 1995). Guidelines for dates of breeding bird surveys from Environment and Climate Change Canada were used. Activity seen and heard directly relates to breeding evidence described in the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas Guide for Participants (2020).
- **Amphibians/Anuran Call Surveys** were completed at aquatic habitats in the Study Area, based on the protocol outlined in the Marsh Monitoring Program Participant's Handbook for Surveying Amphibians (Bird Studies Canada, 2009 Edition).
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Breeding Bird Survey 1	June 10, 2021	16°C, no wind, no clouds, no rain
Breeding Bird Survey 2	June 30, 2021	27°C, mostly cloud, no wind, no rain
Aquatic Habitat Assessments	July 21, 2021	18°C, no wind, partly overcast, no rain
Summer Plant Inventory and ELC	July 29, 2021	23°C, partly cloudy, light wind, no rain
Summer Plant Inventory and ELC	July 30, 2021	18°C, partly cloudy, light wind, no rain
Fall Plant Inventory and ELC	September 15, 2021	25°C, no clouds, light wind, no rain
Fall Plant Inventory and ELC	September 16, 2021	20°C, partly cloudy, light wind, no rain
Spring Plant Inventory	May 6, 2022	10°C, partly cloudy, windy, no rain
Spring Plant Inventory	May 20, 2022	18°C, partly cloudy, windy, no rain

**Northern Map Turtles:**

[https://sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual\\_sara/files/plans/mp\\_northern\\_map\\_turtle\\_e\\_final.pdf](https://sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual_sara/files/plans/mp_northern_map_turtle_e_final.pdf)


**Snapping Turtles:**

[https://sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual\\_sara/files/plans/mp\\_snapping\\_turtle\\_e\\_final.pdf](https://sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual_sara/files/plans/mp_snapping_turtle_e_final.pdf)

**Spiny Softshell:**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/spiny-softshell-recovery-strategy>

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:29:30 PM Status: <None>

Please complete dedicated Visual encounter surveys to assess the presence/absence of snakes within the study area - as recommended to be best practices (above).

Surveys should take into account the various microhabitats preferred by the variety of SAR snakes found in ON. Transect-based protocol of 5m is generally adequate. Search effort of at least 2 hours per hectare person is preferred. 10 surveys would be required to determine absence with 95% confidence based on the relationship between search effort and detection. A significant search effort spanning multiple years is typically necessary to conclude that a snake species no longer occurs at a previously occupied site.

**Reference:**

OMNRF. (2016). Survey Protocol for Ontario's Species at Risk Snakes. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Species Conservation Policy Branch. Peterborough, Ontario. ii + 17 pp. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/survey-protocol-ontarios-species-risk-snakes>

Golden D.M. (2004). Cover-board Surveys for Reptiles and Amphibians on New Jersey Wildlife Management Areas, 2003. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Fish and Wildlife. [https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/ensp/pdf/literature/cover-board\\_surveys\\_herps\\_2003.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/ensp/pdf/literature/cover-board_surveys_herps_2003.pdf)

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**4.5.2 Fish and Fish Habitat**

The Study Area is located within Port Robinson West Subwatershed. This subwatershed is drained by Singer's Drain, which outlets to the Welland Canal. Singer's Drain has two main tributaries that drain the north and south sections of the Port Robinson West Watershed. The current predominant land use along the Study Area is agriculture, with some rural, residential, and urban developments, suggesting Singer's Drain has been impacted by past and present land uses with high sediment deposits that choke aquatic habitat (Totten Sim Hubicki Associates, Ray Blackport, Natural Resource Solutions, Hynde Paul, 1999). Singer's drain is identified as a warmwater creek with Type II habitat (MNRFP, Appendix C of EIS). Type I habitat contains sensitive fish species and/or habitat while Type II habitat is important to the fish community, but it is below its productive capacity. The fish community in this creek is comprised of species that are tolerant of the creek's warmwater thermal regime. Water quality monitoring completed by the NPCA for this creek found the water quality to be poor, containing exceedances of several indicators, including chloride, copper, E. coli, lead, total phosphorus, total suspended solids, and zinc (Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, 2021).

Sampling data provided in the Port Robinson West Subwatershed Study indicated that fish surveys in 1999 captured six species (Central Mudminnow, Brook Stickleback, Brown Bullhead, Peam Dace, Fathead Minnow, and Pumpkinseed). MNRFP indicates that Singer's Drain supports a low-quality warm water fishery comprised of Brook Stickleback, Central Mudminnow, and Fathead Minnow. The MNRFP did not identify the presence of provincially rare aquatic species or aquatic SAR within the Study Area. In addition, DFO SAR mapping (2021) did not identify any SAR in the Singer's Drain System or Study Area.

A review of the NPCA Watershed Explorer online mapping tool was used to identify watercourses within the Study Area that could constitute fish habitat. A total of nine watercourse crossings were identified within the Study Area from aerial interpretation and field visits. The following descriptions are based on field investigations completed in the summer of 2021, the MTO Environmental Guide for Fish and Fish Habitat, and a review of online imagery. Figure 4-33 show the watercourses as mapped, and the table below provides a summary of habitat conditions of the watercourses.

**Table 4-71: Summary of Aquatic Habitat Conditions**

Watercourse Crossing	Location	Summary of Aquatic Habitat Conditions
Watercourse Crossing 1	Located on Rice Road, approximately 550 m north of Quaker Road	This watercourse crossing is comprised of a Corrugated Steel Pipe (CSP) culvert under Rice Road. Within the assessed upstream reach, this watercourse is representative of an anthropogenically altered system. It receives water from a nearby SWM facility and roadside drainage features running parallel to Rice Road. No fish were observed during the assessment.
Watercourse Crossing 2	Located along Rice Road, approximately 210 m south of Merritt Road.	This watercourse crossing is a drainage conveyance feature that takes roadside runoff west to east under Rice Road through a small CSP (equalization culvert). Habitat conditions were insufficient to support fish and/or their life processes.

**Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:31:30 PM Status: <None>**

SNWSO encourages the proponent to mitigate this issue when creating roadway drainage systems, so that sedimentation is reduced and aquatic habitat/life does not continue to be choked.

Consider using sediment filters, or increased vegetation planting so that sediments can be trapped and filtered from entering the watershed/singers drain.

SNWSO encourages the proponent to ensure that this habitat/study area is left better off than it was before, as this will assist in making this land healthy for future generations to use.

**Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:32:08 PM Status: <None>**

Please refer to previous comment.

Improving the water quality in this creek system could be a great way to accommodate for the construction of the roadways. Sediment filters, planting various riparian species, creating natural habitats could all be ways to reduce the toxin load in this creek.

Is it possible to connect this road systems' runoff to a regional water treatment facility so that the Singer's drain/creek could release clean water?

The primary goal for this project should be to leave the environment better off than it was before, improving the habitat for fish and other aquatic life would be a positive step towards that goal.

**Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:33:07 PM Status: <None>**

SNWSO encourages the proponent to conduct an updated fish survey in order to assess the current conditions of the watershed and of the fish species supported in this area. This data is 24 years old, and does not lead to a comprehensive understanding of the study area in its current form.

More recent fish studies may suggest the presence of SAR species, or may indicate that the watershed is worse off than it was in 1999. A desktop study using DFO/MNRFP mapping may not represent on-the-ground-data, which is important to create an accurate picture for the species present.



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Watercourse Crossing 2	Located along Rice Road, approximately 210 m south of Merritt Road.	This watercourse crossing is a drainage conveyance feature that takes roadside runoff west to east under Rice Road through a small CSP (equalization culvert). Habitat conditions were insufficient to support fish and/or their life processes.


Having a comprehensive understanding of the study area is crucial to understanding the impacts that this roadworks project may have on the surrounding habitat and the species present.

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 12:40:49 PM Status: <None>


Were targeted fish surveys such as electro-fishing or eDNA sampling used to assess fish populations? Or was this just a site-visit?  
Targeted surveys should be conducted in order to assess the presence/absence of fish in these watercourses.

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 12:57:17 PM Status: <None>

Please see previous comments regarding improving the water quality and reducing sedimentation, in order to leave the environment better off than it was before.


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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:33:54 PM Status: <None>

While some of these habitats were assessed (found no fish habitat), and others remain unassessed, it is of great importance that the proponent take every precautionary measure to minimize and mitigate impacts to these areas of wetlands/ waterbodies. Considering that crossing 4 does contain fish habitat, it is possible that if all crossings were restored/cleaned up several other areas may establish fish populations.

Please consider restoration (improve water quality, reduce sedimentation, vegetation planting) of all crossings as an accommodation measure.

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 8:34:42 PM Status: <None>

Considering how many sections of water bodies/courses this roadway will be crossing, SNWSO believes it would be important to conduct Benthic surveys using Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network protocols. Understanding the benthic diversity would contribute to a deeper understanding of the water's current conditions and would provide a ecological monitoring tool for comparison. Comparing benthic communities before and after construction can be used to assess the success of mitigation efforts, and ensure that water quality has not been altered.

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Watercourse Crossing	Location	Summary of Aquatic Habitat Conditions
Watercourse Crossing 3	Located along Rice Road, approximately 90 m north of Merritt Road.	Within the upstream reach, this watercourse is representative of an anthropogenically altered system. Roadside drainage contributes to flows under the road via a CSP. No fish were observed during the assessment.
Watercourse Crossing 4	Located along Merritt Road Unopened Road Allowance, approximately 240 m west of Cataract Road.	No actual road crossing is present at this location. Merritt Road Unopened Road Allowance (Segment 1) was used as the defining point in assessing the upstream and downstream reaches. A series of low-lying depressions were identified within the upstream section of this watercourse. Patches of watercress were observed within the depressions, as were <b>Centrarchids</b> and Brook Stickleback. A slight depression conveys the flows through the Merritt Road Unopened Road Allowance. Within the initial 20 m of the downstream reach, the watercourse continues in a similar channel to the upstream reach; however, a large pooled-area appeared to contain the flows with small channels running west. At the time of assessment, these channels were dry, but evidence of flows was observed. <b>No fish were observed within this section.</b>
Watercourse Crossing 5	Located along Merritt Road Unopened Road Allowance, approximately 350 m west of Cataract Road.	Within this crossing location, a dilapidated concrete structure was present under the Merritt Road Unopened Road Allowance. Watercourse banks were mostly <b>unstable</b> , with signs of slumping and erosion. The surrounding area was heavily wooded with overhanging grasses and the riparian vegetation. No fish were observed within this section.
Watercourse Crossing 6		A large pond was identified through aerial imagery, and NPCA mapping identifies the feature as watercourse crossing under Merritt Road; however, no physical connection was observed. <b>A large pond is present on private lands and behind a fence, and as such, it was not possible to determine the source of features of this pond.</b>
Watercourse Crossing 7	Located along Cataract Road, approximately 200 m north of Merritt Road.	Within the assessed upstream reach, this watercourse is representative of a naturalized but also anthropogenically altered system. Watercourse banks were mostly stable yet mowed within the road ROW. A roadside drainage feature runs parallel to the road and contributes flows through a large CSP under the road. No fish were observed during the assessment.
Watercourse Crossing 8	Located along Merrittville Highway, approximately 290 m north of Merritt Road.	Within the assessed upstream reach, this watercourse is representative of a naturalized but also anthropogenically altered system. Watercourse banks were mostly stable yet mowed within the assessed reach. A roadside drainage feature runs parallel to the road and contributes flows through a large concrete culvert under the road. <b>Centrarchids, cyprinids and turtles were observed within the upstream reach.</b> No fish were observed in the downstream reach.
Watercourse Crossing 9	Located along Merritt Road, approximately 425 m east of Merrittville Highway.	Within the assessed upstream section, a large pond was identified through aerial imagery and NPCA mapping. At the time of assessment, the large pond was present but behind a fence and as such, was assessed from the roadside. No fish were observed within this section. NPCA mapping does not identify connectivity between the upstream and downstream reaches; however, a CSP was observed under Merritt Road. Within the 15 m downstream section, the assessed area constituted a <b>phragmites choked pond</b> . Habitat conditions within this section did not appear conducive to supporting fish; however, conditions further downstream may provide habitat. No fish were observed within this section.

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**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:34:21 PM Status: <None>

Potentially of cultural importance to Six Nations (SN).

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**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 12:48:46 PM Status: <None>

Were any amphibians or herpetofauna observed in the upstream/downstream sections?

In each of these 9 crossings were any aquatic/ semi-aquatic species (aside from fish) found?

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**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:37:16 PM Status: <None>

Does the proponent intend to stabilize these banks? If so, how?  
How will the proponent ensure that all 9 of the water crossings are left off better than they were before?

SNWSO advocates for the use of "soft" erosion prevention infrastructure or more naturalized prevention techniques.

Adding more vegetation around the crossing infrastructure/banks could be effective long term (cost effective too), and provide the added bonus of more habitat for wildlife.

Techniques could include anchored logs, Live fascines, coir fiber logs, Toe woods, sod mats, fabric encapsulated soil lifts, woody debris (brush mattress) etc. While each option has it's pros and cons, they offer more opportunity for wildlife habitat to establish. Planting more vegetation (aquatic or terrestrial) may also act as a water filtration system to help clean the water in these reaches.

**Check out some of these resources for softer erosion prevention techniques:**

**Guide to Building Resilient Shorelines. The Natural Edge and Watersheds Canada.**

<https://naturaledge.watersheds.ca/resources/>

**Department of Environmental Conservation. New York State.** <https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/67096.html>

**Soft Shore Protection. Shore Friendly:**

<http://www.shorefriendly.org/your-options/soft-shore-protection/>

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#:~:text=Soft%20shore%20protection%20techniques%20generally,carefully%20designed%20to%20reduce%20erosion.

**Kawartha Conservation. Erosion and Sediment Control Projects.**

<https://www.kawarthaconservation.com/en/permits-and-planning/erosion-and-sediment-control-projects.aspx>

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Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 1:03:02 PM Status: <None>

Potentially of cultural importance to SN.

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Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 1:03:19 PM Status: <None>

How will impacts to these species be avoided or mitigated?

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Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:40:08 PM Status: <None>

Invasive species removal could act as an accommodation measure for improving the study area.

The **Ontario Invasive Plant Council** has Best Management Practices (BMPs) for many invasive species that should be controlled as accommodation measures (including Phragmites).

<https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/resources/best-management-practices/>

The MNRF also has a BMP for Phragmites:


<https://docs.ontario.ca/documents/2675/stdprod-089643.pdf>

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Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:38:18 PM Status: <None>

Considering that this crossing is under Merritt Road, it seems that this construction will have impacts to the pond on private lands. How will impacts be mitigated?

Has the proponent tried to connect with the landowner in order to create a comprehensive understanding of the area and the hydrological flows? How will the proponent respond if the private owner is unhappy with the impacts to their pond?


 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:41:00 PM Status: <None>

Potentially of cultural importance to SN.

Truthfully all of the species listed here in FODM5-3 are of potential cultural importance to SN.

SNWSO uses the word 'potentially,' because each person/ nation within Six Nations has different uses for different plant species.

However, Sugar Maple, Red Oak, American Beech, Black Cherry, Green Ash, Eastern Hop-Hornbeam (Ironwood), Riverbank Grape, Aster species, Sedge species, should be considered important to SN.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 9:32:08 PM Status: <None>

Please consult recovery strategies and follow BMPs listed in order to create a comprehensive avoidance and mitigation plan for these species. It is important that construction does not impact these species survival. Again, it is the Indigenous Perspective that all native species are worthy of protection, but SAR species need a little extra help in order to ensure that future generations are able to use and enjoy these species.

#### **MECP Recovery Strategies for these SAR:**

##### **Round-leaved Greenbrier:**


<https://www.ontario.ca/page/round-leaved-greenbrier-recovery-strategy>

##### **Eastern Flowering Dogwood:**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/eastern-flowering-dogwood-recovery-strategy#:~:text=The%20goal%20of%20this%20recovery,its%20range%20in%20southern%20Ontario.>

##### **White Wood Aster:**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/white-wood-aster-recovery-strategy>

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:43:00 PM Status: <None>

Are these lands under private ownership?

The proponent should work to gain access to these sites in order to create a comprehensive understanding of the study area and the lands that will be impacted by construction.

How far away are these areas from the preferred route alignment?

It is likely that these areas will be impacted via noise, air pollution,

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#### **4.5.3 Terrestrial Resources**

##### **4.5.3.1 Vegetation Communities**

A total of 11 vegetation communities were identified within the Study Area. A summary of characteristics of vegetation communities within the Study Area is provided below. Figure 4-34 shows the location of vegetation communities.

##### **Deciduous Forest (FOD) and Woodland (WOD)**

###### **Dry - Fresh Sugar Maple - Oak Deciduous Forest (FODM5-3)**

These forest communities were found along all four road segments. As the name suggests, these communities were dominated by **Sugar Maple and Red Oak** in the canopy. Other tree species in the canopy included American Beech, and Black Cherry. The sub-canopy was dominated by Sugar Maple, Eastern Hop-Hornbeam and Green Ash, and the understory was comprised of Green Ash, Sugar Maple, and Riverbank Grape. The ground layer within this community was dominated by Large-leaved Aster, sedges, and sapling Sugar Maple, and Green Ash.

A wide range of tree sizes were found in high abundances in this community. The vegetation type of this community was very variable due to changes in topography impacting water flow. A few of this community parcels had experienced selective logging. Tracks and trails only occurred locally and were well marked. Flooding was a disturbance that has had a heavy impact on this community.

Species at risk plant communities identified within this community included **Round-leaved Greenbrier (Threatened)**, **Eastern Flowering Dogwood (Endangered)**, and **White Wood Aster (Endangered)**.

###### **Deciduous Forest (FOD)**

The NPCA's Natural Areas Inventory 2006-2009 mapped forest/thicket communities in two locations within the Study Area. Both locations occur along Segment 2, one location is north of a residence adjacent to Merrittville Highway and one location is to the south along the Study Area between two agricultural fields. **These communities were not directly investigated during fieldwork as they are not anticipated to be impacted by the project and access was limited.**

###### **Dry - Fresh Deciduous Woodland (WODM4)**

This community was found along Segment 3, generally near Merritt Road and Highway 406 ramp.

Trees in the canopy and sub-canopy included **Trembling Poplar**, **Shagbark Hickory**, **Swamp Pin Oak**, and a willow hybrid. The understory was dominated in equal amounts of **Red-osier Dogwood** and **Glossy Buckthorn**. **European Buckthorn** (an invasive plant species) in high abundance and regenerating **Green Ash** were also found in this layer. The ground layer was dominated by **Rough-stemmed Goldenrod**, **Thicket Creeper**, **Broad-leaved Enchanter's Nightshade**, and **Spotted Jewelweed**.

Based on the size of the trees, the abundant number of **standing snags**, and **deadfall** (10 to 24 cm DBH), this community appears to be young. The changes and increase in snags and deadfall are thought to be a factor of **Emerald Ash Borer**.



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**4.5.3 Terrestrial Resources**

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sedimentation, salt and mechanical pollution in soil and waters, the edge effect etc..

How will the loss of ecological services in the surrounding area (carbon sequestration, water filtration and storage, habitat loss, erosion prevention etc) due to the loss of trees, and other natural features impact these FOD communities?

How is the proponent to know, without a proper assessment that there are no SAR species within these woodlots? How will impacts to SAR and other vegetation/ wildlife be mitigated if the proponent did not assess these areas?

The proponent cannot definitely say these lands will not be impacted, as there are always cumulative impacts from construction.

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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Will the proponent be removing invasive species as an accommodation / mitigation measure?

Here is a BMP for the control of Buckthorn:

[https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/OIPC\\_BMP\\_Buckthorn\\_May282012\\_D61.pdf](https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/OIPC_BMP_Buckthorn_May282012_D61.pdf)

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Standing snags and deadfall still have an important role in ecosystems. Standing snag hallows provide habitat for many woodland critters to nest/ sleep (possibly including chimney swifts), and provide food for many species such as woodpeckers (who also eat EBA). Deadfall and standing snags are also contributing to a healthy soil regime by inputting various nutrients, and they provide space/nutrients for many mushrooms and fungi to inoculate & grow.

SNWSO recommends that if standing snags are to be removed during construction they too are replaced when implementing a tree replanting

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**4.5.3 Terrestrial Resources**

**4.5.3.1 Vegetation Communities**

A total of 11 vegetation communities were identified within the Study Area. A summary of characteristics of vegetation communities within the Study Area is provided below. Figure 4-34 shows the location of vegetation communities.

**Deciduous Forest (FOD) and Woodland (WOD)**

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A wide range of tree sizes were found in high abundances in this community. The vegetation type of this community was very variable due to changes in topography impacting water flow. A few of this community parcels had experienced selective logging. Tracks and trails only occurred locally and were well marked. Flooding was a disturbance that has had a heavy impact on this community.

Species at risk plant communities identified within this community included **Round-leaved Greenbrier (Threatened)**, **Eastern Flowering Dogwood (Endangered)**, and **White Wood Aster (Endangered)**.

Deciduous Forest (FOD)

The NPCA's Natural Areas Inventory 2006-2009 mapped forest/thicket communities in two locations within the Study Area. Both locations occur along Segment 2, one location is north of a residence adjacent to Merrittville Highway and one location is to the south along the Study Area between two agricultural fields. **These communities were not directly investigated during fieldwork as they are not anticipated to be impacted by the project and access was limited.**

Dry – Fresh Deciduous Woodland (WODM4)

This community was found along Segment 3, generally near Merritt Road and Highway 406 ramp.

Trees in the canopy and sub-canopy included **Trembling Poplar**, **Shagbark Hickory**, **Swamp Pin Oak**, and a willow hybrid. The understory was dominated in equal amounts of **Red-osier Dogwood** and **Glossy Buckthorn**. **European Buckthorn** (an invasive plant species) in high abundance and regenerating **Green Ash** were also found in this layer. The ground layer was dominated by **Rough-stemmed Goldenrod**, **Thicket Creeper**, **Broad-leaved Enchanter's Nightshade**, and **Spotted Jewelweed**.

Based on the size of the trees, the abundant number of **standing snags, and deadfall** (10 to 24 cm DBH), this community appears to be young. The changes and increase in snags and deadfall are thought to be a factor of **Emerald Ash Borer**.

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Wind throw was also apparent and widespread, a possible result of the increased development and removal of edge habitat. Due to the location and influences of development around the community, the area is disturbed by human use and non-native species are widespread. Inclusions in this community were wetlands and pools.

Species at risk plant communities identified within this community included White Wood Aster (Endangered).

**Deciduous Swamp**

Swamp Maple Mineral Deciduous Swamp Type (SWDM3-3)

This community was found along Segments 1, 2 and 3. This community was dominated by hydrophytic shrubs (wetland vegetation) and tree species and were typically fern and sedge rich. These communities have variable flooding regimes and water depth less than 2 m. Standing water or vernal pooling is greater than 20% of ground cover in the spring but flooding duration is short, and the substrate is aerated by early to mid-summer.

These communities had a canopy of a hybrid maple (*Acer rubrum* X *Acer saccharinum*). Trees found in lower amounts in the canopy included White Elm, Bur Oak, and Shagbark Hickory. White Elm was found more often than the Bur Oak and Shagbark Hickory. Bur Oak and Shagbark Hickory were found in the same abundances. Trees in the subcanopy reflected those found in the canopy; with most abundant species being the hybrid Maple, followed by the White Elm. Green Ash was also found in the sub-canopy. In the understory, there was more of the hybrid Maple, Northern Spicebush, Green Ash, and the invasive Glossy Buckthorn. In the ground layer, there were Panicle Aster, Poison Ivy, sedges, and grasses.

Very few trees were found dead and standing, but there were a lot of small logs (0-24 cm DBH) on the ground. The SWDM3-3 was complex with small marsh communities being found within the swamp where large enough gaps in the canopy occurred. Tracks and trails occurred in a few locations and were well worn. Diseased and dead trees were found to be in a high abundance throughout the whole swamp. The diseases that have injured or killed trees in the swamp are Emerald Ash Borer, and Dutch Elm disease. Another disturbance found in the community was flooding of the vernal pools. Flooding was found to be heavy and widespread within the community. The area close to Merritt Road is more disturbed than the other forest and swamp communities described here

Species at risk plant communities identified within this community included White Wood Aster (Endangered).


**Meadow Marsh**

Graminoid Mineral Meadow Marsh (MAM2)

This community is interspersed within the swamp/forest area on the north side of Segment 2. In some areas the bordering Red and Freemans Maple form a canopy. Shrubs standing 1-2m tall, such as White Meadowsweet and Red-osier Dogwood, were sporadic. Largely, Dark-green Bulrush, Rough-stemmed Goldenrod, White Meadowsweet, and Reed Canary Grass dominate. Like the SWDM3-3, flooding was a


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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Please see previous comments regarding invasive species removal. The proponent should implement invasive and non-native species removals as an accommodation measure for the construction's disturbance. If the proponent removes all non-native/invasive plants and replants the area with native species, the area will be left better off than it was before. This will help to ensure that the lands are healthy and are able to maintain habitats and vegetation for the future.

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Considering that swamps are naturally wet and low lying areas, can this 'flooding' be considered a disturbance; or is the natural cycle of Mother Nature at work?

Increased surface runoff from paved /impermeable areas could be overwhelming the swamps' system.

It is probable that the residential areas within the study area were built within a flood plain and these areas are simply facing the consequences of those actions.


How will this project's creation of wider roadways (more impermeable surface) impact these swamp areas? Will these seasonally wet areas remain consistently flooded as a result? What mitigation measures will be used to ensure that runoff flows remain within natural variations and do not overload the area with sedimentation and pollution?

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Both are potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Both are potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Here is another BMP for managing the invasive Reed Canary Grass:  
[https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/OIPC\\_BMP\\_ReedCanaryGrass.pdf](https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/OIPC_BMP_ReedCanaryGrass.pdf)

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Wind throw was also apparent and widespread, a possible result of the increased development and removal of edge habitat. Due to the location and influences of development around the community, the area is disturbed by human use and **non-native species are widespread**. Inclusions in this community were wetlands and pools.

Species at risk plant communities identified within this community included White Wood Aster (Endangered).

**Deciduous Swamp**

Swamp Maple Mineral Deciduous Swamp Type (SWDM3-3)

This community was found along Segments 1, 2 and 3. This community was dominated by hydrophytic shrubs (wetland vegetation) and tree species and were typically fern and sedge rich. These communities have variable flooding regimes and water depth less than 2 m. Standing water or vernal pooling is greater than 20% of ground cover in the spring but flooding duration is short, and the substrate is aerated by early to mid-summer.

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Species at risk plant communities identified within this community included White Wood Aster (Endangered).

**Meadow Marsh**

Graminoid Mineral Meadow Marsh (MAM2)

This community is interspersed within the swamp/forest area on the north side of Segment 2. In some areas the bordering **Red and Freemans Maple** form a canopy. Shrubs standing 1-2m tall, such as **White Meadowsweet and Red-osier Dogwood**, were sporadic. Largely, **Dark-green Bulrush**, **Rough-stemmed Goldenrod**, **White Meadowsweet**, and **Reed Canary Grass** dominate. Like the SWDM3-3, flooding was a



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large disturbance to the plants in this community. Another disturbance was deer browse. Deer browse was found to be light and local.

Meadow Marsh (MAM)

The NPCA's Natural Areas Inventory 2006-2009 mapped this community behind a residence on the south side of Segment 2. Based on a desktop review and general assessments in the field, these areas have been delineated as meadow marsh (MAM). Further, in Segment 2 on the south side, there is a complex of impacted wet meadow and thicket around industrial and agricultural land uses. These impacted areas have been grouped as a wet meadow thicket (MAM/THD) complex.

Inclusion - Cattail Graminoid Mineral Meadow Marsh Type (MAMM1-2)

This community was found in two locations along Segment 1 within the swamp and forest communities. These MAMM1-2 communities are inclusions and are too fine scale to map. These Cattail Marshes were linear and followed the utility corridor in Segment 1. Pooling water and the open conditions kept for the transmission utility allowed for the establishment of these Cattail Marshes.

The canopy of this community was dominated by Narrow-leaved Cattail with a bit of Rough Cocklebur. The subcanopy had a species of lady's thumb and Sensitive Fern. This community was only found in Segment 1.


**Successional Communities**

Successional Communities are often complexed together as they change in short timeframes and with stochastic environmental events (e.g., flooding can drastically change an ecosystem within five years).

Meadow (ME)

The Meadow (ME) communities are heavily influenced by humans and are not natural occurring meadows. Disturbance in this community was high from ambient noise, non-native and invasive species, and dumping. Many of the meadows in the Study Area are generally thin and near roadways. In Segments 3 and 4, meadow communities occur on their own (i.e., not complexed) as a result of development and areas left fallow. These Meadows were kept at a high level because they were highly variable. Generally, there is no community structure and the species in the meadows consist of Garden Bird's-foot Trefoil, Canada Bluegrass, Tall Goldenrod, and Common Teasel.


In some cases, meadow thicket (ME/THD) complexes occur. These areas are equally influenced by disturbance and have abundant and extensive non-native/introduced species. In Segment 4, the ME/THD community contains some plantings, well-marked trails crossed, disturbance from Rice Road, and hedgerows which contribute to the thicket (THD) complex. The ME/THD in Segment 4 additionally has a highly impacted watercourse. Similarly, a ME/THD community follows the watercourse in Segment 1, north of the unopened road allowance but within residential property. This meadow thicket complex appears to be successional from the forest/swamp community adjacent. This community is still heavily influenced by the anthropogenic uses.

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This is a natural part of ecosystem life-cycles, nature has evolved to withstand this type of disturbance.

It would be different if the deer were browsing on a newly planted area intended to restore a recently cleared area that has little to no habitat to offer. However the deer are trying to survive within these mature/established woodlot/marsh areas, and it is likely that these communities have a system of roots and vegetation to continue to support viable habitat.


SNWSO is unsure if deer browsing should be considered a disturbance, as it is just a natural process on Mother Earth.

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Common Cattail is potentially of cultural importance to SN


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Potentially of cultural importance to SN


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While they may not be naturally occurring, these meadow communities offer the potential for restoration and enhancement plantings as a measure of accommodation. The proponent could manage the invasives present and plant the areas with native meadow species, big/little blue stem grasses and native meadow flowers (milkweeds, echinacea, black-eyed susans, and various asters). This area could be restored into a functioning ecosystem for pollinators, birds, and other wildlife.


Here is a **pollinator friendly plant guide from the Toronto Zoo**:  
<https://www.torontozoo.com/pollinators/Pollinator%20Plant%20Guide.pdf>

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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Native species of Goldenrod are potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Inclusion - Dry – Fresh Forb meadow Ecosite (MEFM1)

This community was a similar location and shape as the MAMM1-2 community. This community was narrow and followed the utility corridor in Segment 1. The community was not mapped as it is an inclusion to the overall swamp community. The canopy was populated with **White Ash**, **Gray Dogwood**, and Bebb's Willow. The plants in the sub-canopy were **Canada Goldenrod**, and **Lance Leaved Goldenrod**. covered 25-60% of the community. The plants in both the understory and ground layer were the same with **Hog Peanut**, **Wild Raspberry**, and Reed Canary Grass.

This was a very young and successional area. The topsoil was found to be sandy. This community was only found in Segment 1.

Native Shrub Deciduous Hedgerow Thicket Type (THDM3)

This community was in a small area on the east side of Segment 1 at the intersection with the unopened road allowance and Cataract Road. This community is complexed within meadow community. It appears this community underwent significant alteration before 2014 (GoogleEarth imagery) but has been left fallow.

Trees found at the road intersection were **White Ash** and American Elm. The thick sub-canopy was dominated by **Choke Cherry**, Glossy Buckthorn and Red Osier Dogwood. The understory was mostly Rough Agrimony, and Riverbank Grape.

A watercourse has been identified to drain from this community north towards the swamp community.

Other Thickets and Thicket Complexes

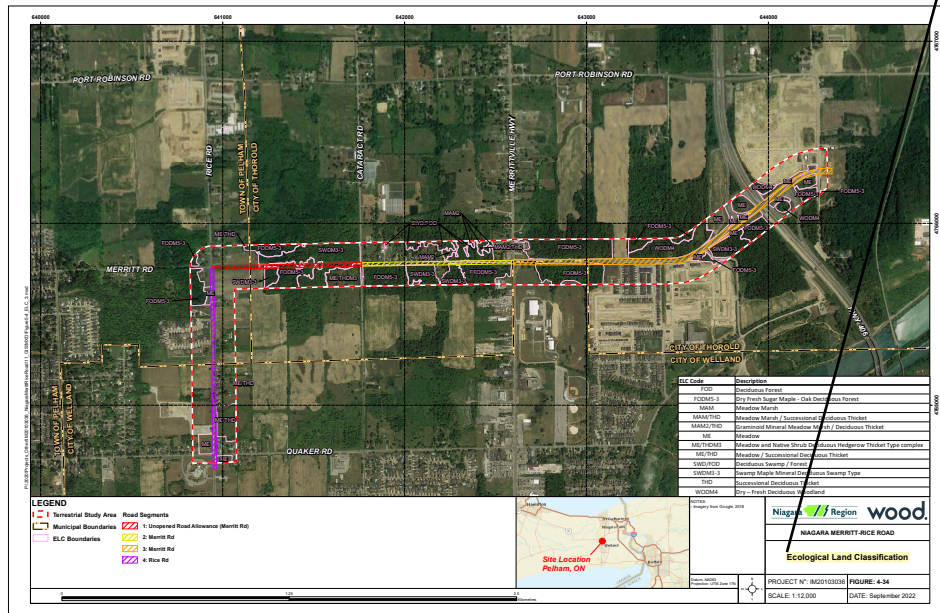
Other thickets (THD) and wet meadow thickets (MAM/THD) were identified along the limits of the Study Area in Segments 1, 2, and 3.

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There is a diverse array of vegetation communities present along the 4 segments slated for roadway improvements. The proponent should take care to create specialized mitigation measures for each community as they will all have different needs and different plant species requirements.

Please consider planting/propagating more of these native and culturally important species within the landscape. SNWSO encourages the proponent to contact Kayanase, a Six Nations native plant nursery. They may be interested in seed collection and plant rescue or trans-location, and if capacity allows they may be able to assist with rehabilitation planning and planting. Please contact Kayanase as early as possible, to invite them to participate.

[www.kayanase.ca](http://www.kayanase.ca)



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**4.5.3.2 Plants**

A total of 298 plants were identified during fieldwork within the Study Area. NPCA's Natural Areas Inventory 2006-2009 identified 216 of these plants as native; the other 67 as introduced, and the last 15 plants as data deficient or a hybrid plant with no status or could not be identified to species. Approximately 72% of the plants inventoried during fieldwork were native. This percentage is high for plant communities along roads, and near agriculture land uses in southern Ontario.

There were six (6) provincially rare (S1-S3) species identified during surveys. 13 locally rare species from NPCA's Natural Areas Inventory 2006-2009 Status lists (Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, 2010), and 12 locally rare species from the Niagara County Status from Oldham Carolinian List (Oldham, 2017). Additionally, three (3) species at risk plants were documented during field surveys. The plant species of conservation concern identified during field investigations are listed in the table below.

**Table 4-72: Plant Species of Conservation Concern**

Scientific Name	Common Name	S-Rank <sup>1</sup>	ESA <sup>2</sup>	NAI <sup>3</sup>	Oldham <sup>4</sup>
<i>Agalinis tenuifolia</i>	Slender-leaved False Foxglove	S4S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Cardamine douglassii</i>	Limestone Bittercress	S4		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Carex arcata</i>	Drooping Woodland Sedge	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Carex projecta</i>	Necklace Sedge	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>	Tall Tickseed	S1S2		Uncommon, Native	Native, Uncommon
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Eastern Flowering Dogwood	S2	END	Uncommon, Native	Native, Uncommon
<i>Erigeron strigosus</i>	Rough Fleabane	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Eurybia schreberi</i>	Schreber's Aster	S2		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Smilax rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Honeysuckle	S2	THR	Uncommon, Native	Native, Uncommon
<i>Galium tinctorium</i>	Dyer's Broomrape	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	Great Blue Lobelia	S5		Rare, Native	Native, status unknown or not specified
<i>Eurybia divaricate</i>	White Wood Aster	S3	END	Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Persicaria hydropiperoides</i>	False Waterpepper	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Prunus nigra</i>	Canada Plum	S4		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Schoenoplectus pungens</i>	Common three-square Bulrush	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Scirpus hattorianus</i>	Mosquito Bulrush	S4		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Black Gum	S3		Uncommon, Native	Native, Uncommon

**Note(s)**

1. S-Rank= Provincial (Sub-national) Rank, S1=Critically Imperiled, S2=Imperiled, S3=Vulnerable, S4=Apparently Secure, S5=Secure. S#S#=#Range. Breeding Status Qualifiers: B – Breeding, N – Nonbreeding, M – Migrant. ? =Inexact or Uncertain.
2. ESA= Endangered Species Act (Ontario), END= Endangered, THR= Threatened
3. NAI= Niagara Status from Natural Area Inventory (Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, 2010)

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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/29/2023, 7:38:17 PM Status: <None>

Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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Potentially of cultural importance to SN

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:54:21 PM Status: <None>

Despite not all of the non-native species being labeled as invasive, SNWSO encourages the proponent to go above and beyond what is legislatively required in order to leave these landscapes better than they were before. By removing non-native species and seeding or replanting these areas with native species, the proponent will be significantly improving the landscape for both the wildlife habitat and future generations to use and enjoy.

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 5:04:06 PM Status: <None>


This is really awesome! It stands to reason that these areas should be protected and maintained.

How will the proponent ensure that these native vegetation species (listed in this section and in the wetland vegetation section) are not removed or displaced by non-native species after clearing and construction? Please include a native planting plan as apart of the mitigation measures.

Will the Clean Equipment Protocol for Industry BMPs be followed as to not introduce any non-native/invasive seeds?

[https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Clean-Equipment-Protocol\\_June2016\\_D3\\_WEB-1.pdf](https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Clean-Equipment-Protocol_June2016_D3_WEB-1.pdf)

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:55:06 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO encourages the proponent to protect these at risk-species, in order to maintain the habitats they provide, and the genetic diversity of these SAR lineages. SNWSO recommends the proponent contact Kayanase to perform seed collection and possible trans-location of any species to be removed for construction.

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**4.5.3.2 Plants**

A total of 298 plants were identified during fieldwork within the Study Area. NPCA's Natural Areas Inventory 2006-2009 identified 216 of these plants as native; the other 67 as introduced, and the last 15 plants as data deficient or a hybrid plant with no status or could not be identified to species. Approximately 72% of the plants inventoried during fieldwork were native. This percentage is high for plant communities along roads, and near agriculture land uses in southern Ontario.

There were six (6) provincially rare (S1-S3) species identified during surveys. 13 locally rare species from NPCA's Natural Areas Inventory 2006-2009 Status lists (Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, 2010), and 12 locally rare species from the Niagara County Status from Oldham Carolinian List (Oldham, 2017). Additionally, three (3) species at risk plants were documented during field surveys. The plant species of conservation concern identified during field investigations are listed in the table below.


**Table 4-72: Plant Species of Conservation Concern**

Scientific Name	Common Name	S-Rank <sup>1</sup>	ESA <sup>2</sup>	NAI <sup>3</sup>	Oldham <sup>4</sup>
<i>Agalinis tenuifolia</i>	Slender-leaved False Foxglove	S4S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Cardamine douglassii</i>	Limestone Bittercress	S4		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Carex arctata</i>	Drooping Woodland Sedge	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Carex projecta</i>	Necklace Sedge	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>	Tall Tickseed	S1S2		Uncommon, Native	Native, Uncommon
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Eastern Flowering Dogwood	S2	END	Uncommon, Native	Native, Uncommon
<i>Erigeron strigosus</i>	Rough Fleabane	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Eurybia schreberi</i>	Schreber's Aster	S2		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Smilax rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Greenbrier	S2	THR	Uncommon, Native	Native, Uncommon
<i>Galium tinctorium</i>	Dyer's Bedstraw	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	Great Blue Lobelia	S5		Rare, Native	Native, status unknown or not specified
<i>Eurybia divaricate</i>	White Wood Aster	S3	END	Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Persicaria hydropiperoides</i>	False Waterpepper	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Prunus nigra</i>	Canada Plum	S4		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Schoenoplectus pungens</i>	Common three-square Bulrush	S5		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Scirpus hattorianus</i>	Mosquito Bulrush	S4		Rare, Native	Native, Rare
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Black Gum	S3		Uncommon, Native	Native, Uncommon

→ **Note(s)**


1. S-Rank= Provincial (Sub-national) Rank, S1=Critically Imperiled, S2=Imperiled, S3=Vulnerable, S4=Apparently Secure, S5=Secure. S#S#=#Range. Breeding Status Qualifiers: B – Breeding, N – Nonbreeding, M – Migrant. ? =Inexact or Uncertain.
2. ESA= Endangered Species Act (Ontario), END= Endangered, THR= Threatened
3. NAI= Niagara Status from Natural Area Inventory (Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, 2010)



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How will the proponent ensure that these bird species are not displaced by construction/clearing, and during the operation of the roadways? What mitigation and accommodation measures will be taken (beyond avoiding clearing during the breeding season)?

Will bird boxes be installed,, will targeted planting regimes take place?

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:56:06 PM Status: <None>

Wild Turkeys are of great cultural value for Six Nations people as a source of sustenance and ceremonial practices (feathers).

Please consider protecting or mitigating impacts to the habitat available for these species as to not disturb them. If these species were to be displaced as a result of roadworks, this would infringe on Indigenous hunting and harvesting treaty rights.

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4. Oldham= Niagara County Status from Oldham Carolinian List (Oldham, 2017)

**4.5.3.3 Wetland plants**

Plants are identified as wetland plants using a Coefficient of Wetness (must be identified to the species level). The definitions of the Coefficient are show in Table 4-73 as defined by Oldham, Bakowsky, & Sutherland, 1995.

**Table 4-73: Coefficient of Wetness Categories**

Coefficient of Wetness <sup>1</sup>	Preferred Soil Moisture Regime
5	Almost always occur on uplands
3	Usually occur on uplands
0	Found on uplands and in wetlands
-3	Usually occur in wetlands
-5	Almost always occur in wetlands

<sup>1</sup> Oldham, Bakowsky, & Sutherland, 1995.

Many of the plants documented during field surveys are wetland plants. For example, 45 species of plants are almost always occurring in wetlands (Coefficient -5), 63 plants are usually found in wetlands (Coefficient -3). A total of 108 wetland plants were identified during field investigations.

**4.5.3.4 Birds**

A total of 48 species of birds were documented during breeding bird surveys. The breeding bird survey locations within the Study Area are shown in Figure 4-35. Nine (9) additional birds were observed incidentally during other surveys. The majority of species documented are associated with agricultural, wooded and successional habitats. One species at risk bird (Barn Swallow) was documented during field investigations. Two Carolinian indicator species were documented on site, Carolina Wren and Tufted Titmouse. Three additional Carolinian indicator species were documented in secondary sources, Hooded Warbler in the OBBA and Northern Bobwhite and White-eyed Vireo in NHIC. Northern Bobwhite is considered extirpated from the area.

Three species, American Robin, Wild Turkey, and European Starling were confirmed breeding. An additional 19 species were considered probable breeders, 20 were possible breeders, and six were observed with no evidence of breeding noted. The 19 species considered probable breeders are:

- American Crow;
- American Goldfinch;
- Black-capped Chickadee;
- Blue Jay;
- Brown-headed Cowbird;
- Chipping Sparrow;
- Common Grackle;
- Eastern Wood-pewee;
- Great Crested Flycatcher;
- House Sparrow;
- Killdeer;
- Mourning Dove;
- Northern Cardinal;
- Red-eyed Vireo;
- Red-winged Blackbird;
- Savannah Sparrow;
- Song Sparrow;
- Swamp Sparrow; and
- Willow Flycatcher.

**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 8:58:34 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO is happy that these species will still be included for the assessment of the study area. As again, the absence of species is harder to prove than presence. Just because these species were not found in the two Breeding bird surveys (all within June, 2021) does not mean that these species are not present, or using the habitat periodically for mating, nesting or feeding.

Some bird species have high site fidelity while others rotate between several nesting sites which can vary annually or within the year for different clutches.

This is the reasoning behind SNWSO's recommendation to conduct multi-year, multi-season surveys, as this methodology can help to create a more comprehensive understanding of the habitat and it's variability.

Please consider conducting more breeding bird surveys, using a multi-year, multi-season approach, in order to better understand the species that may be present within the study area.

**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:00:55 PM Status: <None>

What measures are being taken to accommodate these species? As they may be present within the study area.

These listed endangered/threatened species have high nesting site fidelity, which is arguably part of the cause for their population declines. Many of these bird species depend on the habitat they lived in, and once that habitat has been altered or destroyed they are left with no home. This is why it is important to protect their habitats entirely, rather than altering them to make way for roads or housing developments. These species struggle to adapt to change and are in decline as a result.

As an accommodation measure, SNWSO encourages the proponent to build habitats for these SAR species, in an attempt to compensate for any alterations to habitat that may occur. Building nesting boxes and creating targeted or species specific planting plans are some methods that should be considered.

**Here are some resources for BMPs, nesting boxes, and recovery strategies:**

**Bank Swallow:**

<https://files.ontario.ca/bansbmqpenpdffinalv.1.117mar17.pdf>

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The 20 species considered possible breeders are:

- Baltimore Oriole;
- Carolina Wren;
- Cedar Waxwing;
- Common Yellowthroat;
- Downy Woodpecker;
- Gray Catbird;
- Hairy Woodpecker;
- House Finch;
- House Wren;
- Indigo Bunting;
- Mallard;
- Northern Flicker;
- Red-bellied Woodpecker;
- Red-tailed Hawk;
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak;
- Turkey Vulture;
- Warbling Vireo;
- White-breasted Nuthatch;
- Wood Thrush; and
- Yellow Warbler;

A review of secondary sources identified 111 species of birds. The majority of which are found in sources that extend beyond the Study Area. From field data and secondary sources, there are four provincially rare (S1-S3) species; six provincially Endangered or Threatened species; six provincial species of Special Concern. The six provincially endangered or threatened species are: Bank Swallow, Barn Swallow, Bobolink, Chimney Swift, Eastern Meadowlark, and Northern Bobwhite. Provided the range of successional habitat and vegetation communities present, there is a moderate probability for SAR birds to occur in the Study Area.

#### 4.5.3.5 Wetland Birds

Thirteen species designated as wetland birds were documented during field investigations. These bird species are listed in the table below.

**Table 4-74: Wetland Birds identified within the Study Area**

Species Common Name	Survey Type	Breeding Evidence <sup>1</sup>
Canada Goose	Incidental	Unknown
Common Yellowthroat	Incidental and BBS	Possible, only documented once
Double-crested Cormorant	BBS	Not likely, Fly overs
Great Blue Heron	Incidental	Unknown
Herring Gull	BBS	Not likely, Fly overs
Mallard	Incidental and BBS	Observed
Northern Waterthrush	Incidental	Not likely, observed once
Ring-billed Gull	Incidental and BBS	Not likely, Fly overs
Rusty Blackbird	Incidental	Not likely, observed once
Spotted Sandpiper	Incidental	Not likely, observed once
Swamp Sparrow	Incidental and BBS	Probable, observed both rounds in suitable habitat
Willow Flycatcher	BBS	Probable, observed both rounds in suitable habitat
Wilson's Warbler	Incidental	Not likely, observed once

<sup>1</sup> Appendix D of EIS

**Niagara Region  
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- House Finch;
- House Wren;
- Indigo Bunting;
- Mallard;
- Northern Flicker;
- Red-bellied Woodpecker;
- Red-tailed Hawk;
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak;
- Turkey Vulture;
- Warbling Vireo;
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Mallard	Incidental and BBS	Observed
Northern Waterthrush	Incidental	Not likely, observed once
Ring-billed Gull	Incidental and BBS	Not likely, Fly overs
Rusty Blackbird	Incidental	Not likely, observed once
Spotted Sandpiper	Incidental	Not likely, observed once
Swamp Sparrow	Incidental and BBS	Probable, observed both rounds in suitable habitat
Willow Flycatcher	BBS	Probable, observed both rounds in suitable habitat
Wilson's Warbler	Incidental	Not likely, observed once

<sup>1</sup> Appendix D of EIS

**Barn Swallow:**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/barn-swallow-recovery-strategy>

<https://naturecanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Barn-Swallow-Final-BMP.pdf>

[https://files.ontario.ca/creatingbarsnestinghabitatfinal17mar09\\_0.pdf](https://files.ontario.ca/creatingbarsnestinghabitatfinal17mar09_0.pdf)

\*Despite the recent down listing of Barn Swallows on the SAR Registry, SNWSO encourages the proponent to go above and beyond and do everything possible to ensure the continued survival of these swallows.\*

**Chimney Swift:**

[https://wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/virtual\\_sara/files/plans/rs\\_chimney\\_swift\\_e\\_final.pdf](https://wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/virtual_sara/files/plans/rs_chimney_swift_e_final.pdf)

<https://sora.unm.edu/sites/default/files/journals/nabb/v017n02/p0061-p0064.pdf>

[https://view.publitas.com/birds-canada-gykhaz9yrrpp/chimney\\_swift\\_landowner\\_sheet\\_-\\_on\\_-\\_en\\_-\\_final\\_\\_updated\\_logo\\_2020/page/1](https://view.publitas.com/birds-canada-gykhaz9yrrpp/chimney_swift_landowner_sheet_-_on_-_en_-_final__updated_logo_2020/page/1)

\*Maintaining existing chimneys (or tree hallows) is the best way to preserve existing habitat, as only a few structures/towers made for nesting have been successful.\*


**Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark:**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/bobolink-and-eastern-meadowlark-recovery-strategy>

**Northern Bobwhite:**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/northern-bobwhite-recovery-strategy#:~:text=Because%20habitat%20availability%20is%20a,last%20documented%20record%20of%20occupancy.>

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:02:29 PM Status: <None>

For all the species that were listed as "Not likely, observed once; fly-overs; possible documented once," SNWSO encourages the proponent to assume the study area is habitat. As again, absence is harder to prove than presence. Just because no signs were detected in the two surveys (both conducted in June) does not definitely suggest whether or not these species are using this area as some form of habitat. It is possible that this habitat is used for resting grounds, feeding grounds etc. Many of these wetland birds could be scoping out the area for next seasons breeding, or as a new spot to stay as a result of nearby disruption or construction etc..



Please do not discredit the study area as unusable habitat, due to a lack of observation. Multi-year and multi-season studies could assist in having a more definitive understanding of the areas' use.

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<sup>1</sup> Appendix D of EIS


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**4.5.3.6 Amphibians and Reptiles**

A total of eight species of anurans (frogs and toads) were documented from 25 locations within the Study Area (Figure 4-35). Eight (8) species were documented calling from suitable habitat at appropriate breeding times, and it is assumed all species successfully breed at Stations 1 through 25.

**Table 4-75: Species Documented During Anuran Call Surveys**

Station Number	Species of Anuran Noted		
	April Survey	May Survey	June Survey
1	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Green Frog
2	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Spring Peeper	Green Frog
3	None	None	Gray Treefrog
4	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Spring Peeper	None
5	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper, Northern Leopard Frog	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	American Bullfrog, Green Frog
6	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper, Northern Leopard Frog	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper, Green Frog	American Bullfrog, Gray Treefrog, Green Frog
7	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	American Toad, Spring Peeper	Gray Treefrog, Green Frog
8	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	None	Green Frog
9	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Western Chorus Frog	Green Frog
10	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	American Toad, Spring Peeper	Gray Treefrog
11	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Spring Peeper	None
12	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	None	None
13	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Spring Peeper	Gray Treefrog
14	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	American Toad, Western Chorus Frog, Gray Treefrog	Gray Treefrog
15	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	None	American Bullfrog, Green Frog
16	Western Chorus Frog	None	None
17	Western Chorus Frog	None	None
18	Western Chorus Frog	None	None
19	Western Chorus Frog	None	Gray Treefrog
20	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	None	Gray Treefrog
21	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Western Chorus Frog	Gray Treefrog
22	Western Chorus Frog	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Gray Treefrog
23	Western Chorus Frog	Western Chorus Frog	Gray Treefrog
24	Western Chorus Frog	American Toad	Gray Treefrog, Green Frog
25	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper, Pickerel Frog	None	Gray Treefrog, Green Frog

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:05:05 PM Status: <None>

The Western Chorus Frog is tricky.

The Carolinian Population (South and West of Toronto- Niagara region) is not considered at risk. While the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence population (North and East of Toronto) is considered threatened.


SNWSO recommends taking precaution with this species and refer to the recovery guide for any guidance on BMPs to follow. As again anuran species are relatively sensitive, and are worthy of protection.

ECCC. (2014). **Recovery Strategy for the Western Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*)**, Great Lakes / St. Lawrence – Canadian Shield Population, in Canada.

[https://www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual\\_sara/files/plans/rs\\_rainette-fx-grillon-ouest-w-chorus-frog-prop-0614\\_e.pdf](https://www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual_sara/files/plans/rs_rainette-fx-grillon-ouest-w-chorus-frog-prop-0614_e.pdf)

COSEWIC. (2008). **COSEWIC assessment and update status report on the Western Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*)** Carolinian population and Great Lakes/St. Lawrence – Canadian Shield population in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.

[https://www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual\\_sara/files/cosewic/sr\\_western\\_chorus\\_frog\\_0808\\_e.pdf](https://www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual_sara/files/cosewic/sr_western_chorus_frog_0808_e.pdf)

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 8:56:54 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO encourages the proponent to design the roadway with mitigation practices in place for reptiles, frogs and salamanders. As currently the surveys conducted (call surveys) do not assess for non-calling amphibian or reptile presence. Since there was not adequate targeted surveys, the proponent should act as if there are salamanders and reptiles present and act accordingly.

**Best Management Practices for Mitigating the Effects of Roads on Amphibian and Reptile Species at Risk in Ontario**


[https://files.ontario.ca/bmp\\_herp\\_2016\\_final\\_final\\_resized.pdf](https://files.ontario.ca/bmp_herp_2016_final_final_resized.pdf)

**Best Management Practices for Amphibian and Reptile Salvages.**

<https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/eirs/finishDownloadDocument.do;jsessionid=75A0C5DB4656631D474E35C54D8927C1?subdocumentId=10351>

**Reptile and amphibian exclusion fencing:**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/reptile-and-amphibian-exclusion-fencing>

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:03:19 PM Status: <None>

Would the proponent consider installing a wildlife under pass/crossing for amphibians & reptiles, as well as other wildlife species?

An underpass would help avoid accidents (wildlife entering the hwy) and would reduce the movement barrier that wildlife will face as a result of the newly expanded roadways.

Here are some articles on how to design wildlife overpasses/corridors, please use industry Best management practices to assist in the designs:

Miller, T., Jambor, M., and Wasniak, D. (n.d) **Design Considerations for Wildlife Crossings**. Contech Engineered Solutions.  
<https://www.conteches.com/Knowledge-Center/PDH-Articles/Design-Considerations-for-Wildlife-Crossings>

Brennan, L., Chow, E., and Lamb, C. (2022). **Wildlife overpass structure size, distribution, effectiveness, and adherence to expert design recommendations**. PeerJ Life and Environment. DOI: 10.7717/peerj.14371


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6	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper, Northern Leopard Frog	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper, Green Frog	American Bullfrog, Gray Treefrog, Green Frog
7	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	American Toad, Spring Peeper	Gray Treefrog, Green Frog
8	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	None	Green Frog
9	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Western Chorus Frog	Green Frog
10	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	American Toad, Spring Peeper	Gray Treefrog
11	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Spring Peeper	None
12	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	None	None
13	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Spring Peeper	Gray Treefrog
14	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	American Toad, Western Chorus Frog, Gray Treefrog	Gray Treefrog
15	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	None	American Bullfrog, Green Frog
16	Western Chorus Frog	None	None
17	Western Chorus Frog	None	None
18	Western Chorus Frog	None	None
19	Western Chorus Frog	None	Gray Treefrog
20	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	None	Gray Treefrog
21	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Western Chorus Frog	Gray Treefrog
22	Western Chorus Frog	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper	Gray Treefrog
23	Western Chorus Frog	Western Chorus Frog	Gray Treefrog
24	Western Chorus Frog	American Toad	Gray Treefrog, Green Frog
25	Western Chorus Frog, Spring Peeper, Pickerel Frog	None	Gray Treefrog, Green Frog

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 8:44:23 PM Status: <None>

Beavers are federally and provincially protected under several acts (Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, Canada Fisheries Act, Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act) and are culturally important to many Indigenous communities.

How will impacts to the beaver be mitigated?


 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/30/2023, 9:44:22 PM Status: <None>

Deer hold immense cultural value for Six Nations people as a source of sustenance. Undoubtedly the construction will have impacts for deer overwintering areas (fields woodlots) and their migrations across the landscape. However, they are not often considered for the same protection that SAR species are.

Please note that while species of endangered and threatened status are of importance to Six Nations, SAR is not an inclusive list of all of the other species that may also be considered important.

Species that have sustenance, cultural, medicinal and crafting value and are still used today, are often not included in these lists - and thus impacts are often not mitigated. SNWSO encourages the proponent to avoid disrupting this overwintering habitat, as doing so may infringe on Indigenous hunting and harvesting treaty rights.

Please endeavor to include the culturally important species in follow up assessments and studies to ensure that indigenous values are recognized and accounted for.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:13:09 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO recommends that the proponent carry out acoustic bat monitoring surveys, following the protocols listed below, to better understand what bat species are present and in what quantities. Otherwise the proponent should act as if these SAR bat species are present, and work to accommodate them.

Having a comprehensive understanding of the bats species present will assist in creating comprehensive mitigation and accommodation plans. For example the proponent could create bat boxes in areas with significant

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**4.5.3.7 Other Wildlife**

No additional targeted surveys were completed for wildlife species (e.g., mammals, butterfly or dragonfly surveys). A review of secondary sources found that 40 mammals, and 34 arthropods may be present in the Study Area.

**Mammals**

Eight (8) mammal species were observed incidentally during field investigations in the Study Area. These species were: American Mink (dead on road), Coyote, Eastern Chipmunk, Eastern Gray Squirrel, Northern Raccoon, Red Squirrel, Virginia Opossum (a Carolinian indicator species), and White-tailed Deer. These are common species in Niagara Region.

The Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario shows about 40 species of mammals that could be found in the Study Area because they occur in the general area. Most of these species are common mammals such as Muskrat, Striped Skunk, and Woodchuck. Endangered bats as listed by the ESA were identified as potentially occurring in the Study Area.

These bats are Northern Myotis, Tricolored Bat, Eastern Small-footed Myotis, and Little Brown Myotis (Appendix E of EIS). Little Brown Myotis, Tri-coloured Bat have been reported in the potentially occur in the generally area (Humphrey & Fotherby, 2019).

The Study Area has many forests that are assumed to provide habitat for species at risk bats.

The only small mammal observation comes from the Port Robinson West Scoped Subwatershed. The mammal observed was a Meadow Vole. Other mammals observed as part of the field work for the Port Robinson West Scoped Subwatershed included: Beaver, European Hare, Red Fox, Striped Skunk, and Woodchuck (Aquafor Beech Limited, 2014). Small mammals such as shrews (Northern Short-tailed Shrew), rats, mice, and voles (White-footed Mouse, Deer Mouse, Muskrat, House Mouse, Norway Rat, Meadow Jumping Mouse) have the potential to occur and be undocumented or underrepresented. Meso- and large mammals such as Eastern Cottontail, Gray Fox, and weasels (Ermine, Long-tailed Weasel, Mink) likely occur in the Study Area. WSP field staff observed White-tailed Deer in the Study Area. White Tailed deer wintering areas that are mapped by the province lie are in the Study Area (and acknowledged in the Regional OP (Niagara Region, 2014)).

**Arthropods**

Two incidental sightings of common arthropods were recorded during fieldwork, both of which have been previously recorded for the area in secondary sources. These two species were Common Wood-nymph, and Northern Cloudywing.

The Ontario Butterfly Atlas identified 34 species of butterflies. One of these species is a species of conservation concern, Monarch (Special Concern). iNaturalist held records of insects such as Black-legged Meadow Katydid, Common Eastern Bumble Bee, and Hickory Tussock Moth. In addition to these insects iNaturalist had records of eight other butterflies. The Port Robinson West Scoped Subwatershed Study identified five butterfly species, one which was the Monarch, a species of Special Concern in Ontario.

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acoustics, and ensure that any roadway lighting is coned so that there is no upwards glare to disrupt bat flight patterns. Ideally the newly installed nesting features would be used by the bats before any trees are removed for construction.

Here is a **recovery strategy for Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, and Tri-colored bat** to assist in planning and accommodation:

[https://www.registrelp-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual\\_sara/files/plans/rs\\_LittleBrownMyotisNorthernMyotisTricoloredBat\\_e\\_proposed.pdf](https://www.registrelp-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual_sara/files/plans/rs_LittleBrownMyotisNorthernMyotisTricoloredBat_e_proposed.pdf)

**Survey Protocol for Species at Risk Bats within Treed Habitats: Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis & Tri-colored Bat. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Guelph District, April 2017.**

\* This protocol was used for another roadworks project sited here: [https://highways6and401hamiltontoguelph.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Terrestrial-Appendices\\_Part1.pdf](https://highways6and401hamiltontoguelph.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Terrestrial-Appendices_Part1.pdf)

**MNRF. (1984). Habitat Management Guidelines for Bats of Ontario.**

<https://dr6j45jk9xcmk.cloudfront.net/documents/2790/guide-bats.pdf>

**BMPS for bat boxes:**

**Haliburton Highlands Land Trust. (2018). Best Management Practices for Bats.**

<https://www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Best-Management-Practices-for-Bats-January-2018.pdf>

**BC Community Bat Program. (2019). Best Management Practices for Bat Boxes in British Columbia.**

<https://www.bcbats.ca/attachments/BMPS-for-Bat-Boxes-in-BC-2019.pdf>

**Law, R. (2021). How to build a bat box. Ontario Parks.**

<https://www.ontarioparks.com/parksblog/diy-bat-box/>

**Bat Conservation International. (n.d). Two-chamber Rocket Box. The Bat House Builder's Handbook.**

<https://batcon.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/RocketBoxPlans.pdf>

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SNWSO recommends that targeted surveys are conducted for arthropods in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of the study area. Since no targeted surveys were conducted for arthropods, the proponent should assume that the study area is habitat for a diverse array insects/arthropods.

Consider creating pollinator gardens and plant a diverse array of native vegetation so that all types of arthropods can be supported within the habitats present, ranging from wetlands to meadows.

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**Recovery Strategy for the Rusty Patched Bumblebee:**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/rusty-patched-bumble-bee-recovery-strategy>

**Management Plan for the Monarch:**

[https://www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual\\_sara/files/plans/mp-monarch-e-final.pdf](https://www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual_sara/files/plans/mp-monarch-e-final.pdf)

here is another pollinator plant guide from **David Suzuki Foundation:**

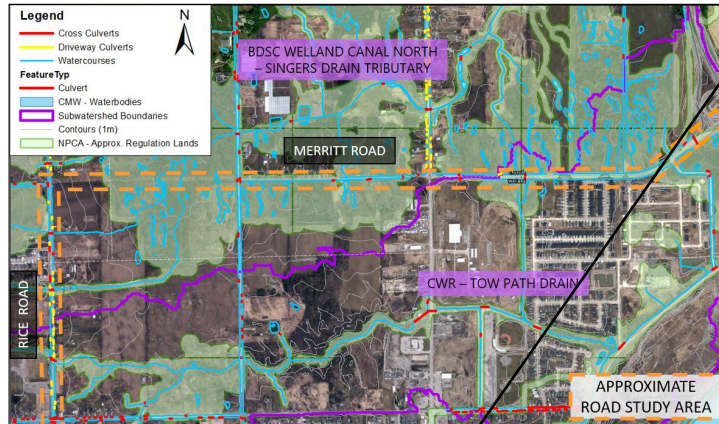
<https://david Suzuki.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/DSF-ON-lake-erie-lowland-plant-list.pdf>



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**Figure 4-36: Singers Drain and Towpath Drain Subwatersheds**



**4.6.1.1 Singers Drain**

The Singers Drain is a municipal drain located within the Beaver Dam Shiner's Creek (BDSC) subwatershed system, and ultimately contributes to the Welland Canal North system. The Singers Drain subwatershed has a drainage area of approximately 1570 hectares, and begins west of Pelham Street, south of Port Robinson Road, and continues to drain west to east, through the municipalities of the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland. The lands contributing to the Singers Drain are primarily rural / natural lands, as well as some areas of low density residential.

The Singers Drain subwatershed has been assessed as part of several preceding studies. Through review of the preceding studies, it has been identified that there are several known Flood Damage Centers within the Singers Drain system. Through discussions with the NPCA, it is understood that the area of Cataract Road and Merritt Road, directly north of the intersection of Segment 1 and Segment 2, is also a known Flood Damage Center. This area is understood to be prone to ponded water within the roadside ditches and overtopping the roadway crossing during significant storm events. While the scope of this study was not to investigate these off-site conditions or identify potential solutions, it is important to understand the local conditions as it relates to the preliminary assessment of the roadway designs.

The Study Area of Merritt Road and Rice Road contribute to the Singers Drain system in the headwaters, including Segment 1, Segment 2 and portions of Segment 3 and Segment 4 contributing to the regulated watercourses via roadside ditches. The Study Area also has three (3) existing watercourse roadway crossings along Rice Road

The Indigenous perspective is to leave the lands off better than they were before. It is not enough to maintain status quo, we should all be working to improve the environment so that people of today and future generations may rely on the earth's resources.

SNWSO strongly encourages the proponent to collaborate with the NPCA to identify and install measures that can be taken to protect and improve the water quality within these watersheds. Water is life, and without access to clean water many lives may be put at risk, both human and non-human.

While the proponent is not solely responsible for the problem, SNWSO encourages them to be apart of the solution.

Please ensure that these roadworks will not increase the flooding stress or further reduce the water quality in these areas, but rather stabilize and enhance these areas to function within natural and healthy cycles.



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(Segment 4), and watercourses crossing through the unopened road allowance of Merritt Road (Segment 1).

**4.6.1.2 Towpath Drain**

The Towpath Drain is a municipal drain located within the Center Welland River Subwatershed system, and contributes to the Welland Canal system. The Towpath Drain Subwatershed has a drainage area of approximately 1700 hectares (+/-), and begins west of Claire Avenue, north of Quaker Road, and continues to drain west to east, through the municipalities of Pelham, Thorold, and Welland. The land use of the Towpath Drain subwatershed is a mix of urban, industrial, natural areas, and agricultural lands.


The Towpath Drain subwatershed has been assessed as part of several preceding studies. Through the review of the preceding studies, it has been identified that the headwaters of the Towpath Drain are identified on the Fonthill Kame-Delta Complex, which is an area of significant groundwater recharge and an area of high groundwater vulnerability. The Central Welland River Watershed Plan identified several special studies to support reduction of contaminant and point source pollution throughout the Towpath Drain subwatershed.

The Study Area of Merritt Road and Rice Road contribute to the Towpath Drain system in the Upper-Mid area of the headwaters (southern portion of Segment 4), as well as further downstream near the eastern portion of Segment 3 approaching the Highway 406 interchange. The Study Area also has one (1) existing watercourse roadway crossing along Rice Road (Segment 4), located north of Quaker Road.

**4.6.2 Surface Water / Drainage**


As noted previously, the Study Area contributes to two (2) subwatershed systems, ultimately discharging to the Welland Canal. The subject roadways are rurally serviced by roadside ditches under existing conditions and contribute to a variety of watercourses / drainage features throughout the Study Area (Figure 4-37). This includes three (3) tributaries of the Singers Drain which cross Rice Road, namely North, Center and South Tributaries, as well as one (1) crossing of the Towpath Drain on Rice Road. Additional cross-culverts are found along the ROWs to facilitate other tributary drainage or convey ditch drainage to the ultimate outlet. The ditches have been surveyed as part of the current study which supported the characterization of the existing drainage conditions, and development of the subcatchment plan. Figure 4-37 provides an overview of drainage conditions. Detailed figures are provided in Appendix A of the Stormwater Management and Hydraulic Assessment Report (Appendix F).

An integrated hydrologic/hydraulic model of the existing conditions of Merritt Road and Rice Road was developed in the PCSWMM software. Hydrology represents the quantity of water (runoff) generated from a specific area or watershed. Hydraulics deals with the physical properties of water, such as calculating the depth of flow in an open channel. Data from various government sources was used in the development of this model, including Digital Elevation Model (DEM) from the 2015 Southwestern Ontario Orthophotography Project, surficial soil mapping developed by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), land use mapping provided by the Niagara Region and other data sources.


 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:16:59 PM Status: <None>

How will the proponent ensure that no groundwater/aquifer contamination will occur during the construction & operation of these roadway expansions? SNWSO believes that it is critical to ensure these recharge areas are protected, as groundwater is crucial for safe drinking water supply.

Decisions to alter tributaries, drains, and hydrological flows within these watersheds for the purpose of roadway expansion, has many associated knowledge gaps for groundwater. Please conduct comprehensive studies and work to address the knowledge gaps surrounding the impacts to waterflows and aquifers.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/31/2023, 9:18:40 PM Status: <None>

Please expand on this. What efforts are being taken to reduce contaminants and point source pollution? How will the proposed roadworks impact these efforts?

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:17:47 PM Status: <None>

Is this subcatchment plan a pre-existing regional plan, or is this being undertaken solely for the proposed works?


Creating a sub-catchment basin may be tricky to accomplish without having unintended consequences for the PSWs and their hydrological cycles, SNWSO encourages precaution.

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The integrated hydrologic/hydraulic model was calibrated using local rainfall data and surface water monitoring data. Local rainfall data for the monitoring period of June to November 2022 was sourced from the Humberstone Landfill Climate Station. This station is less than 7 Kilometers away from the study area and would therefore provide a local resource for rainfall / storms occurring during the monitoring period. For surface water data, a Surface Water Monitoring program was designed with input from Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority to collect surface water data to understand surface water input to the Provincially Significant Wetland along Segment 1 and support model calibration.


Three (3) water level gauges and one (1) barologger for air pressure were installed to collect surface water data from June 15 to October 24, 2022. The first gauge (J23) was installed along the Singers Drain North Tributary at Rice Road, located north of Merritt Road. The second gauge (J11) was installed along the Singers Drain South Tributary, at Rice Road just south of Rosewood Crescent. The last gauge (J159) was installed on the main branch of Singers Drain, at the Merrittville Highway. The combination of the three (3) gauges allowed for monitoring of the representative inflow and outflow of the wetland system. The gauges were located within the road rights-of-way along sections of open channel. The surface water monitoring locations are shown in Figure 4-38.

The results of the integrated hydrologic/hydraulic model simulations are summarized in Table 4-76 for each of the respective drainage system outlets along Rice Road and Merritt Road. Detailed figures showing subcatchment boundaries are provided in Appendix A of the Stormwater and Hydraulic Assessment Report (Appendix F). These results represent the baseline conditions. These results were used to support separate hydraulic analysis for the Singers Drain floodplain system located within Segment 1. The results from this assessment were used to inform the development of the stormwater management strategy discussed in Section 8.11.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/1/2023, 10:52:56 AM Status: <None>


Surface water flows may bring road salts, and oils into the PSW features. These roadworks may have implications for high water flow events and water management (increased runoff, with the increase in impermeable surfaces). How will proponent prevent altering these complex water regimes, avoid increased flooding, and ensure that these systems do not receive an increased load of contaminants?

Will the proponent strive to contribute to the studies and efforts for the reduction of contaminants and point source pollution within both the Towpath and Singers Drain systems?

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 10/31/2023, 10:14:59 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO believes that the results from 2022 may not be the best representation for a baseline. Are there any historical records that can be used to establish what the baseline hydrology/hydraulics might have been before roads and residential settlements impacted the PSWs/landscape? Are these areas within a historical flood plain? How have the hydrological flows changed in the last 10-50 years?

This 2022 data could be used as a comparison point for before, during, and after construction. However, this 2022 data already depicts that these watershed systems are destabilized and under stress. Using the historical or natural hydrologic/hydraulic data would be the best data to use in order to establish a 'natural' baseline and measure how far society has pushed these systems into destabilization.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:20:07 PM Status: <None>

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**Table 4-78: Overtopping Depths (m) at Hydraulic Structures**

Structure ID#	Roadway	Structure Type / Size	Overtopping During:			Maximum Overtopping Depth (m)
			25-year	50-year	100-year	
N1	Rice Rd	0.6 m CSP Culvert	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.12
C1	Rice Rd	0.5 m CSP Culvert	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06
S1	Rice Rd	0.75 m CSP Culvert	0.24	0.26	0.27	0.27
M1	Cataract Rd	1.5 m (W) x 1.05 m (H) CSP Arch Culvert	0.47	0.43	0.41	0.47
M2	Merrittville Hwy	3.0 m (W) x 1.1m (H) Open Bottom Box Concrete Culvert	-	-	-	-

Cross-sections have been generated in the current hydraulic modelling surrounding the unopened road right-of-way along Merritt Road within Segment 1. This applies to both the Centre Tributary and the South Tributary. The simulated Water Surface Elevations and resulting water depths for each return period have been summarized in Table 4-79 for both the upstream and downstream cross-sections along each reach.

**Table 4-79: Existing Conditions Simulated WSE and Water Depth – Segment 1**

River	Cross-Section ID	Data Type	Simulation Results					
			2-yr	5-yr	10-yr	25-yr	50-yr	100-yr
Centre Tributary	185	Depth (m)	0.18	0.20	0.21	0.23	0.25	0.28
		WSE (m)	182.02	182.04	182.05	182.07	182.09	182.12
	160	Depth (m)	0.18	0.22	0.24	0.27	0.32	0.36
		WSE (m)	181.92	181.96	181.98	182.01	182.06	182.10
South Tributary	100	Depth (m)	0.20	0.25	0.28	0.30	0.34	0.36
		WSE (m)	181.96	182.01	182.04	182.06	182.10	182.12
	83	Depth (m)	0.19	0.24	0.28	0.30	0.34	0.36
		WSE (m)	181.94	181.99	182.03	182.05	182.09	182.11

Based upon the results within Table 4-79, the simulated flood depths range from 0.18 m (+/-) up to 0.36 m (+/-) within this area for the range of simulated events, and the maximum water surface elevation in the South and Centre Tributary is approximately 182.12 m. It should be noted that while in reality, these reaches have the potential to overtop and spill into the adjacent reach generating a combined floodplain, the current 1D modelling treats the two (2) reaches as independent watercourses and does not allow for spill flows to leave or join the adjacent watercourse.


#### 4.6.4 Hydrologic Function of Wetlands

A Wetland Water Balance Risk Assessment was conducted for the wetland located within the vicinity of the proposed Merritt Road Segment 1, as requested by the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority through project discussions. This assessment was completed in accordance with Toronto Region Conservation Authority's Wetland Water Balance Risk Evaluation (November 2017). This guideline document identifies that several factors will influence the magnitude of hydrological change. These factors include the following (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, 2017):

- Wetland feature limits
- Extent and size of pre-development catchments

It is the Indigenous Perspective to let Mother Earth run her course. Nature is unpredictable, and climate change only exacerbates this unpredictability. Preventing humans, and human infrastructure from residing in flood plains and waterways should be a base component of planning. Maintaining the healthy functioning of the environment is fundamental for the continued course of humanity. The protection or enhancement of the environment should not be an afterthought to infrastructure or economic costs. We are apart of the environment, not separate from it.

If these roads are to built, they should be built in a manner that anticipates and respects how mother nature operates. What adaptive flooding measures will be taken into consideration? Control valves? Appropriate culvert sizes? The previously mentioned sub-catchment plan ?

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/1/2023, 1:53:31 PM Status: <None>

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- Total development area of catchment
- Area of the wetland catchment owned by the proponent
- Percent of impervious cover planned within the proponent's holdings
- Proposed extent and size of the post-development catchment
- Anticipated magnitude and duration of water taking
- Location and extent of any locally significant recharge areas

The Provincially Significant Wetland located within Segment 1 is primarily a surface water fed system and has a total of three (3) watercourses contributing to the system, generally draining from west to east across the Study Area. Two (2) of the watercourses cross Rice Road, south of Merritt Road, and drain north crossing the unopened road allowance of Segment 1. The third watercourse contributes to the wetland north of Merritt Road. All three (3) watercourses combine to form the upstream extent of the main branch of the Singer's Drain, prior to crossing at Cataract Road.

The Provincially Significant Wetland system consists of several localized wetland pockets (Figure 4-41). Some of these wetland pockets are located on-line within the watercourse features (i.e., receive drainage from the contributing road ROW), whereas others are more isolated and would receive local drainage. These wetland pockets have been assessed using the DEM to interpret the representative storage volume and surface area of the individual features, which have then been grouped into localized systems where appropriate. A summary of these wetland groupings summarizing the number of wetland pockets, whether the wetland groupings are on-line features, whether the wetlands groupings are located within the proposed Segment 1 ROW, and the associated storage volume and drainage characteristics is provided in Table 4-80.

As noted in Table 4-80, a total of twenty-one (21) wetland groups have been identified, which represent a total of forty-one (41) individual wetland pockets. Of the wetland groups, ten (10) of them are situated on-line within the watercourses and would therefore receive drainage from either the Rice Road ROW (Segment 4) or the Merritt Road ROW (Segment 1). The other eleven (11) groups are situated off-line and are anticipated to receive more localized drainage as opposed to drainage from upstream contributing drainage systems. Of the wetland groups, four (4) are physically located within the Segment 1 ROW, which is anticipated to be the greatest area of change due to the proposed roadway (not accounting for any anticipated grading changes or temporary construction activities which may occur beyond the proposed ROW limits).

As for the hydrologic representation of the wetland systems, the total surface area of the various wetland groupings is approximately 47,300 m<sup>2</sup> (+/-), which generally provides an estimated total storage volume of approximately 94,000 m<sup>3</sup> (+/-). The drainage areas to each wetland group range from 0.17 ha (i.e., off-line group), up to 89.11 ha (on-line group), and have an average imperviousness ranging from 5% up to 36%. However, on average, at the downstream extent of the total wetland system (i.e., upstream of Cataract Road), the total drainage area is 292.8 ha, with an average existing imperviousness of 23%.


Similar to previous comments, what measures will the proponent take to mitigate any contaminants or sedimentation that will enter the wetland pockets as a result of both construction and operation of the expanded roadways?

Will sediment fencing be used? Filtration systems? Will these drainage systems be linked to any stormwater treatment facilities?

Will there be monitoring during construction and operation to ensure that water quality is not diminished further?

Monitoring is important to ensure that mitigation efforts are successful and allow for timely action if any negative impacts are occurring.

It is crucial that action is taken to both improve and protect the quality of these PSWs.

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With clayey soils limiting the groundwater contributions to the wetlands, the impacts of sedimentation and contaminants ponding within surface water may be increased.

What measures will the proponent take to prevent increased contamination/sedimentation both during constriction and operation?

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#### 4.7 Soils and Groundwater


A Preliminary Hydrogeological Investigation was completed for Segment 1 (Unopened Road Allowance) based on the input received from the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority. This report is provided in Appendix G. The investigation involved a desktop-based assessment followed by field investigation, which included the drilling of boreholes and the installation of groundwater monitoring wells. Hydraulic conductivity testing and groundwater level monitoring was undertaken to assist in the hydrogeological characterization of the subsurface soils, to assess seasonal groundwater level variations. The purpose of the preliminary hydrogeological investigation was ultimately to assess the hydrogeological function, in simple terms the role of groundwater in the wetlands located along Segment 1.

Three (3) boreholes (BH/MW1, BH/MW2, and BH/MW3) were drilled along the unopened road allowance of Merritt Road. The location of boreholes is shown in 4-42.

Surficial geology mapping indicates that the Study Area includes fine textured glaciolacustrine deposits containing silt and clay, however, just to the west of Rice Road, is roughly the termination of the geological area known as the Fonthill Kame (Figure 4-43, Figure 4-44 and Figure 4-45). The soils of the kame contain a substantial amount of sandy material and is considered an aquifer that provides groundwater to the area of the kame. Groundwater within the kame generally flows radially towards the edges of the kame. As groundwater reaches the edge of the kame, much of it becomes surface water because the underlying lower permeability soils cannot receive groundwater at the same rate it flows through the sandy soils. The surface water that results are the headwaters of many of the local creeks, including the creeks that flow through the site (Figure 4-46).

Silty clay / clayey silt soils were encountered within the study area, with the exception of the sandy silt soils encountered at depth at BHMW1. These silty clay / clayey silt soils have relatively low hydraulic conductivities where groundwater cannot readily move through the subsurface. As groundwater cannot readily move through the subsurface within these soils, groundwater is not expected to be a significant source of water to the wetland areas and thus this would generally limit the hydrogeological function of the wetland areas. However, these low permeability soils found near surface would also limit the infiltration of precipitation water into the ground, which can result in ponded water and contribute to wetland conditions especially during the wetter seasons when evaporation is less. Groundwater levels within these silty clay / clayey silt soils at BHMW2 and BHMW3 were found to be near surface and just over a meter below ground surface respectively. The groundwater levels were slightly declining during the monitoring period to date as expected based on the summer period monitored thus far.

Sandy silt soils were encountered at depth at BHMW1. These sandy silt soils have a relatively higher hydraulic conductivity where groundwater can move through the subsurface at a relatively higher rate. Artesian groundwater conditions may suggest that these soils could be hydraulically connected to the permeable soils of the Fonthill Kame. If connected to the soils of the Fonthill Kame, this would provide a steady source of water to the area. However, based on the soils encountered at BHMW2, while limited

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While these roadworks are not located within the vulnerable IPZ areas, there may still be negative cumulative impacts stemming from this project. How will these roadworks impact the source protection area as a whole, rather than just the intake areas?

Could these roadworks contaminant the area making it unusable or unhealthy for non-human beings to live near or drink from?

What steps will the proponent take to ensure that there are no unintended or negative impacts to the source protection area?

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#### 4.8 Source Water

The Clean Water Act, 2006 is intended to protect existing and future sources of drinking water. Under this legislation, various vulnerable areas have been delineated around surface water intakes and wellheads for every municipal residential drinking water system that is located in a Source Protection Area (Government of Ontario, 2006). Source Protection Plans have been developed to contain policies to address the significant drinking water threats.

Subject segments of Merritt Road and Rice Road are located in Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Area. Within this source protection area, municipal drinking water is derived exclusively from surface water sources. The surface water sources include six Water Treatment Plants, which are owned and operated by the Niagara Region. **There are six municipal water treatment plants with surface water intakes in the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Area which supply over 80% of the population.** The remaining 20% of the population is supplied by private drinking water systems such as residential wells and cisterns. There are no municipal wells in the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Area and therefore no Wellhead Protection Areas (Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Committee, 2014).

In the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Area, activities that are considered significant drinking water threats only occur in the vulnerable areas around municipal water treatment plant intakes. These vulnerable areas are known as Intake Protection Zones (IPZs). Three types of IPZs were delineated: IPZ-1, IPZ-2, and IPZ 3. Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Plan policies apply within these three IPZs.

A review of source water protection mapping indicate that the subject road segments are not located in any of the IPZs within the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Area (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, 2021; Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Committee, 2014; Niagara Region, 2014).

#### 4.9 Technical Environment


##### 4.9.1 Utilities

Utilities located along subject road segments are identified in Table 4-81. These utilities were identified through Ontario One Call request and consultation with utility providers and staff from Niagara Region and Local Area Municipalities.

**Table 4-81: Utilities along Merritt Road and Rice Road in Study Area**

Road Segment	Utilities
Segment 1 - Merritt Road between Rice Road and Cataract Road	Hydro
Segment 2 - Merritt Road between Cataract Road and Merrittville Highway / Niagara Street	Enbridge Gas Hydro Bell
Segment 3 - Merritt Road between Merrittville Highway / Niagara Street and Highway 406	Enbridge Gas Hydro
Segment 4 - Rice Road between Merritt Road and Quaker Road	Enbridge Gas Hydro Bell Sanitary Sewer Watermain Niagara Regional Broadband Network (South of Rice Road and Quaker Road)



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SNWSO agrees with this statement.

Whether or not traffic has to take an indirect route, the congestion seems unavoidable. Even with the additional roadway in segment 1 and the expansion works proposed.

Please refer to comment below.

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encouraged to submit their comments during the online meeting, by sending them via email to the Study Team Members, or by completing an online comment form available on the project webpage.


#### 5.2.4 Public Comments

A summary of key comments and questions and Study Team's responses is provided in Table 5-6. The comments received were grouped by subject/topic and the content of comments was summarized. Please note that the comments provided in Table 5-6 do not reflect the exact wording, but instead provide a summary of those comments. For detailed comments, please refer to Appendix I, Appendix J, and Appendix K.

**Table 5-6: Summary of Key Public Comments and Questions and Study Team's Responses**

Subject	Summary of Key Comments and Questions	Study Team Response
Justification for the Project	The existing parallel roads to the north and south of the Segment 1, are alternatives to "the most direct route" that would not cause the same amount of environmental carnage. In addition, congestion can be an impetus for people to make different choices that would be better for the environment, for instance, take public transit, work from home more often, alter their work time to avoid traffic, carpool etc.	The lands adjacent to Merritt Road and Rice Road will continue to experience population and employment growth in the near future. The need for the proposed improvements was identified in the Council approved 2017 Niagara Region Transportation Master Plan. A transportation assessment was completed as part of this Class Environmental Assessment Study to assess traffic operations and safety within the study area in the context of anticipated development that will be occurring within/adjacent to the study area in accordance with three separate Secondary Plans (East Fonthill Secondary Plan in the Town of Pelham, Port Robinson Secondary Plan in the City of Thorold and Northwest Welland Secondary Plan in the City of Welland).  As a result of the proposed development, the transportation assessment identified significant congestion on the road network, particularly on Merritt Road between the Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street and the Highway 406 interchange by 2041. With the existing Merritt Road segment between Rice Road and Cataract Road remaining closed, Niagara Street between Merritt Road and Quaker Road and Quaker Road between Rice Road and Niagara Street will also experience a significant increase in traffic volumes given the need for motorists to take an indirect route between the Town of Pelham and the Highway 406 intersection.
	Does the extension of Merritt Road between Rice Road and Cataract Road need to happen? Could 'No Segment 1' be an option? This road extension is not needed. The existing parallel roads can handle the traffic.	As discussed in Section 6 of this report, a "Do Nothing" alternative solution was identified and evaluated. The evaluation of alternatives determined that this alternative will not address the recommendations of the Niagara Region's TMP (2017) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road. This alternative will maintain existing transportation conditions and will not address the forecasted traffic congestion for the 2031 and 2041 horizon years resulting from approved development plans, nor provide for improvements to pedestrian and cycling facilities within the Merritt Road and Rice Road corridors. This alternative does not address objectives of provincial policies related to planning and protection of transportation corridors as well as planning of infrastructure to support growth. As such, this alternative was not recommended to be carried forward. It is recognized that this alternative will have no impacts on a number of criteria (including private properties, natural environment and cultural environment, and cost.



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SNWSO agrees with this statement.

The growth in this area is "projected" and may not occur to the degree that is expected.

The loss of free and effective environmental services, may lead to the requirement for further expensive and less effective infrastructure to manage stormwater, deal with road accidents (wildlife or human), reduce pollution and heat island effects etc.


The environmental losses do not seem to be worth the potential for ease in travel.

Especially since within the traffic modeling scenario 2 (to expand roadways) there are still going to be sections that are approaching or over capacity by 2031 and 2041.

It seems the addition of the segment 1 road, and the expansion of the other segments may not reduce traffic congestion enough to justify the loss of significant environment.

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Subject	Summary of Key Comments and Questions	Study Team Responses
Impacts to Natural Environment	Concerned about impacts of extension of Merritt Road (Segment 1) on Provincially Significant Wetlands and the natural environment. What mitigation measures might be taken to address impacts to the natural environment?	The Study team has completed an Environmental Impact Study to document existing natural environment conditions within the Study Area, project's potential impacts on those conditions, and recommended avoidance and mitigation measures. A summary of existing natural environment conditions within the Study Area is presented in Section 4.5, and project's potential impacts and mitigations measures are discussed in Section 9.4. It is important to note that the Environmental Impact Study was completed in accordance with Niagara Region's Environmental Impact Study Guidelines, and in consultation with staff from Niagara Region's Planning and Development Services and Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority. The draft version of the EIS was shared with staff from these agencies for review and comment and was subsequently finalized. The Environmental Impact Study Report is provided in Appendix E.
	The Study Area consists of significant natural systems; Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSW), watercourses, and associated floodplains. The Study Area also include Significant Woodlands. Species at Risk have been identified. These natural features must be protected both for their natural habitat values and green infrastructure functions.	While the Niagara Region understands the need and desire to protect our natural environment, the proposed transportation improvements are required in order to provide capacity for the projected traffic growth in the area. It is recognized that some impacts will occur on the natural environment. An Environmental Impact Assessment was completed in order to confirm the magnitude of impacts on the natural environment, and to propose recommended measures. Recommendations from this assessment will be implemented before, during and after the construction, as may be required. The Niagara Region will acquire the required permits and approvals prior to proceeding to construction.
Climate Change	Climate change impacts have not been provided.	A discussion around climate change considerations is provided in Section 9.8.
Project Implementation	How will the construction of road segments be phased? Will all roads be constructed at once or will they be constructed in a phased approach?	The implementation of the road improvements will be based on the recommendations of the Transportation Assessment Report (Appendix A) as summarized in Section 8.13 (Construction Phasing / Implementation Strategy).
Municipal Services	Are municipal services (water or sewer) proposed?	No water or wastewater sewer services are proposed as part of this EA. Upon completion of the Class EA Study, the Niagara Region staff in coordination with the staff from Local Municipalities, will address the required services during the Detailed Design stage. A new sanitary sewer is planned along Rice Road north of Quaker Road, however this will be confirmed and coordinated prior to the widening of Rice Road.
Hydro Lines	Could the hydro line along Segment 1 and Segment 4 be installed underground?	The preferred design includes space for overhead utilities along Segment 1. Converting the utility corridor to an underground corridor is very costly and would be subject to discussions with the applicable utility companies during detailed design. Concerning Segment 4, there are utility poles on both sides of Rice Road. The preferred design includes space for overhead utilities on the west side of Rice Road; provision of an underground corridor would also be subject to the same discussions.
Segment 1 Road Design	Why is segment#1 not designed as a more urban route?	Segment 1 route has been classified according to the new complete street guidelines as a rural roadway.
	Can you clarify if a four-lane cross-section being considered for Segment 1?	The Transportation Assessment determined that a two-lane cross-section would be required for Segment 1. As such, a two-lane roadway with a multi-use path was confirmed as the final preferred design. A summary of existing and future traffic


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SNWSO is hesitate to advocate for more lighting in a sensitive ecological area. Creating more light pollution may impact the flight patterns and sense of direction for bats, nocturnal birds and moths. If the proponent is to install more lighting please consider using shielded lighting that directs lighting away from natural areas and prevents upward glare.

Please avoid the use of lighting within forested sections.


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Subject	Summary of Key Comments and Questions	Study Team Response
		conditions from the Transportation Report is provided in Section 4.2, and the final preferred design is explained in Section 8 of this report (Description of the Preferred Design). The Transportation Report is provided in Appendix A.
	Would there be value in having a resting place along the multi-use path in Segment 1 to highlight some of the significant wetland features? Providing people with learning opportunities about the sensitivities of the environment encourages the future environmental behaviours.	Currently, no resting place is recommended along the multi-use path due to space limitations. This can be further reviewed during detailed design phase.
Segment 2 Road Design	The road width in Segment 2 is very narrow. Car drivers speed down this roadway resulting in speed control measures (speed cushions). In the spring the ditches become very full of water creating a drowning hazard. If possible, an urban cross section with curbs, sidewalks and/or bike lane/multiuse path would be ideal. Many people use this section of roadway. Providing appropriate and divided use lanes would be ideal. Please consider pedestrian level lighting as well as tree coverage for sun protection in the summer.	The proposed road cross-section was designed in accordance with Region's Complete Streets Design Manual and includes two-way traffic lanes along with ditches and a multi-use path on the north side. Design features such as, illumination, will be determined during detailed design phase. Tree removal will be minimized to the extent possible.
Segment 3 Road Design	Are there any considerations of traffic lights into Merritt Meadows? The turn lane into Merritt Meadow both eastbound and westbound is a challenge, particularly when accessing from west to east.	The transportation assessment did not identify the need for a traffic signal at the intersection of Merritt Road and Eastman Gateway, as such, no traffic signal is proposed at this intersection.
	Segment 3 segment has high speed traffic exiting from the Highway 406. There are also a few points of interest along this segment that encourage speeding. Separated and protected bike lanes are necessary as well as pedestrian facilities. A multiuse path would be ideal. The current west exit on from the highway is sweeping which makes it difficult for pedestrians to cross. This type of sweeping infrastructure creates a conflict zone. Consider working with the MTO to add in bike and walking facilities on the	The preferred design proposes a sidewalk and a bike path along Segment 3. In addition, a traffic signal is proposed at Highway 406 interchange for safe pedestrian and cyclist crossing. A multi-use path is also proposed from Grisdale Road across Highway 406 overpass and up to Kottmeier Road to provide connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists. Details of proposed active transportation infrastructure are provided in Section 8.

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SNWSO strongly encourages the proponent to use a 10:1 tree replacement ratio, in order to compensate for the loss of ecological services (carbon sequestration, water filtration and storage, air filtration, cooling, habitat, aesthetics etc.).

A monitoring plan should also be created to assess the success of planting and seeding, and to allow the opportunity to make any adjustments required (i.e plant replacement trees for any saplings or shrubs that may die off, re-seeding empty areas, managing invasive species, watering vegetation if necessary, adding protective cages for newly planted saplings, and removing those cages once the tree is established etc). SNWSO encourages monitoring programs to continue for a minimum of 5 years post implementation of any mitigation/accommodation efforts to ensure their success, and to take corrective action if needed.

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SNWSO argues that the environmental impacts from this project may not be so predictable or manageable. The proponent is proposing to impact a PSW: that has SAR species present, is surface water fed, is tied into a large groundwater aquifer (Fonthill-Kame), and is a source water protection area that 80% of the Niagara Region depends on .

There will be cumulative effects that stem from this project. Whether the impacts are realized immediately is unknown, but the impacts will be felt.

How can the proponent be so confident that this project will not impact the wildlife (SAR or otherwise), the water regimes present (quality and quantity), the vegetation present, the air quality, soil stability etc. SNWSO feels that this project comes with a lot of uncertainties and these knowledge gaps should be address both for the short and long-term.

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Subject	Summary of Key Comments and Questions	Study Team Response
	road plans to accommodate new intersecting roads to allow future residents easy and safe ingress and egress to homes in these new neighbourhoods without difficult median obstructions.	design has been developed based on existing developments in the area, while having regard for future development. Since the information related to future development (including ingress, egress and road pattern, etc.) are not available at this time, the median will be kept as is in the preferred design. Further, the road improvements on Rice Road are not required until 2031 and beyond. As such, when the Niagara Region receives an application for a development, the Niagara Region staff will review and evaluate as to where to provide access and dedicated left turn lanes. If the future development proceeds prior to the initiation of the Rice Road improvements, the design for Rice Road will be updated during detailed design to consider new intersecting roads associated with the future development.
Active Transportation Facilities	Will the Study Team consider sidewalks and bike lanes on one side of the road?	The following active transportation facilities are proposed considering minimizing impacts to property properties and natural environment, and drainage conveyance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Segment 1: Multi-use path on the north side</li> <li>Segment 2: Multi-use path on the north side</li> <li>Segment 3: Bike path and sidewalk on the south side, up to Grisdale Road. Multi-use path across Highway 406 overpass up to Kottmeier Road</li> <li>Segment 4: Sidewalk on the east side and multi-use path on the west side</li> </ul> Please refer to Section 8 for more details about the preferred design.
	Would it not make sense for the flow of cycling and walking to propose active transportation facilities on one side of the road to reduce crossing over?	There will be traffic signals at the intersections to help pedestrians and cyclists cross the road. The reason active transportation facilities are being proposed on the north side along Segments 1 and 2 and south side along Segment 3 is because of the location of residences. The cycle track and sidewalk will provide direct access to residences.
Vegetation and Tree Planting	What type of vegetation and trees will be planted for replacement?	Vegetation and tree planting is typically confirmed during detailed design phase. Site restoration/revegetation will include an appropriate mix of native, non-invasive and locally appropriate plantings. A tree inventory will be completed during detailed design and an assessment will be completed at that time to identify number of tree removal. A tree assessment, protection and compensation plan will be developed at that time to protect as many trees as possible, and to identify tree compensation, where tree removal is required.
Environmental Assessment Process	An Individual Environmental Assessment should have been completed for this project, not a Municipal Class EA.	The Study Team would like to clarify that the individual environmental assessments are prepared for large-scale, complex projects with the potential for significant environmental effects. They require approval from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. On the other hand, the Municipal Class Environmental Assessments are completed for the municipal infrastructure projects that have predictable and manageable environmental effects. The Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process is an approved process under the Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act, 1990.  Regardless of the above, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) has the authority and discretion to make an Order under Section 16 of the

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Subject	Summary of Key Comments and Questions	Study Team Response
		Environmental Assessment Act. A request may be made to the MECP for an order requiring a higher level of study (i.e., requiring an individual/comprehensive EA approval before being able to proceed), or that conditions be imposed (e.g., require further studies), only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate, or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests on other grounds will not be considered. The information about Section 16 Order Process is provided in Section 1.4.
Consultation Process	The consultation process is inadequate. In a transparent process, adequate information would be shared, questions would be answered, and where necessary followed up on with further information. In addition, Public Information Centres cannot be considered adequate meaningful consultation when most questions are not answered, and pertinent details and data are not made available.	This project is being planned in accordance with the requirements for a Schedule 'C' project under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process. Three public information centres have been hosted for the project. Each public information centre involved an online presentation with opportunities for anyone to ask questions. The public information centres included a minimum of two-week period for anyone to provide comments and/or ask questions. Information materials related to each event were made available on the project webpage during the comments / questions period. Given the amount of information presented at the public information centre #3, the Study Team had invited comments from December 1, 2021, to December 23, 2021 (~three weeks). The Study Team provided responses to the comments received as part of the public information centres. Summary reports for all three public information centres are also available on the project webpage.  This report is also available for public review during the duration (minimum of 30 days) outlined in the Notice of Study Completion.
	Public comment periods after release of studies and reports, as well as PICs, should be a minimum of four weeks.	The experience shows that two weeks is generally sufficient time to review and provide comments on the public information centre materials. For the public information centre #3, the Study Team invited comments from December 1, 2021, to December 23, 2021 (~three weeks).  This report is also available for public review during the duration (minimum of 30 days) outlined in the Notice of Study Completion.
Transit System	Information on the impact of the newly approved Regional Transit System on traffic patterns has not been provided.	The intent of the one transit system is to combine all of Niagara's existing services into one single, integrated transit commission that would serve all of Niagara Region. The Moving Transit Forward system would bring together independently operating local transit systems in Fort Erie, St. Catharines, Welland, and Niagara Falls, as well as Niagara Region Transit and NRT On-Demand, in order to offer consistent operating hours and fares, new digital payment technology, and better connections for riders across Niagara. Based on available transit information, there are no future GO Transit plans within the study area and no anticipated impact on traffic patterns. Details about consolidated transit model can be accessed from the following link: Moving Transit Forward: <a href="https://movinatransitforward.ca/">https://movinatransitforward.ca/</a>
Cost Estimate	Updated information on proposed project costs has not been provided.	The preliminary construction cost estimate is provided in Section 8.12.


SNWSO believes that there will be adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights.

The lands are being cleared and altered, contamination to the soils and waters may occur, the wildlife and vegetation will be displaced or disturbed. Deer may lose their overwintering area, turkeys may not decide to congregate, the noise, lighting, and inability to cross the landscape may deter them and other wildlife from the area. Reduced water quality and altered hydrological cycles may create a toxic and/or hypoxic water supply for wildlife. The impacts from a newly created edge habitat may disturb native species of birds and plants, and encourage the spread of non-native/invasive to choke out medicinal plants.

SNWSO believes that these roadworks will both directly and indirectly lead to the loss of these viable hunting and harvesting areas.

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Impacts to water regimes and quality.  
Impacts to soil quality and permeability.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/1/2023, 3:02:45 PM Status: <None>

Cost for mitigation and accommodation measures (tree planting, alternative nesting structures, wildlife under passes, invasive species removals etc).


Cost to monitor and maintain the success of mitigation and accommodation measures.

These additional costs should be included within budgeting, but should not be spared, limited, or negated due to funding constraints. The health and function of the environment should be top priority.

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**Table 6-2: Evaluation Criteria for Alternative Solutions**

Factor	Evaluation Criteria
Transportation	<p><b>Municipal Planning Policies:</b> Addresses recommendations of the Niagara Region's TMP (2017), for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road in alignment with Complete Streets guidelines</p> <p><b>Provincial Planning Policies:</b> Complies with the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) and conforms with Growth plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2020)</p> <p><b>Capacity and Level of Service:</b> Potential to improve existing and future traffic congestion and level of service (LOS) on Merritt Road and Rice Road</p> <p><b>Safety:</b> Potential to improve road safety by removing roadside hazards along Merritt Road and Rice Road</p> <p><b>Active Transportation:</b> Potential to incorporate active transportation facilities for walking and cycling</p> <p><b>Network Connectivity:</b> Potential to provide a direct route between Highway 406 interchange and areas west of the study area (Town of Pelham).</p> <p><b>Goods Movement:</b> Potential to improve goods movement</p>
Socio-economic Environment	<p><b>Private Property:</b> Potential for property requirements</p> <p><b>Economic Development:</b> Supports future growth and economic sustainability along Merritt Road and Rice Road</p> <p><b>Public Realm:</b> Ability to provide opportunities to enhance streetscaping, landscaping, and public realm along Merritt Road and Rice Road</p> <p><b>Accessibility:</b> Provides opportunities to improve accessibility and reduce barriers in the built environment</p> <p><b>Construction Impacts:</b> Potential impacts to residents, businesses and institutions during construction</p> <p><b>Health:</b> Provides active transportation infrastructure which will promote walking and cycling</p> <p><b>Noise:</b> Potential for noise impacts</p>
Natural Environment	<p><b>Terrestrial Environment:</b> Potential impacts to terrestrial resources (vegetation, wetlands, trees, species at risk, and wildlife)</p> <p><b>Aquatic Environment:</b> Potential impacts to fish and fish habitats</p> <p><b>Air Quality:</b> Impacts to air quality</p>
Cultural Environment	<p><b>Archaeological Resources:</b> Potential impacts to lands identified to retain potential archaeological resources</p> <p><b>Built Heritage and Cultural Resources:</b> Potential impacts on built heritage and cultural heritage landscapes</p>
Engineering / Constructability	<p><b>Utilities:</b> Impacts on utilities</p> <p><b>Stormwater Management:</b> Provides opportunities to reduce stormwater quantity and/or improve stormwater quality</p> <p><b>Climate Change:</b> Provides opportunities to improve resilience of the subject roads to changing climatic conditions</p> <p><b>Implementation:</b> Potential for impacts associated with project implementation/construction</p>
Cost	<p><b>Implementation Cost:</b> Cost to construct</p> <p><b>Operation and Maintenance Cost:</b> Cost to operate and maintain</p>

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Authority and other agencies (e.g., Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and Fisheries and Oceans Canada).

Given the proximity of the intersection to the Core Natural Heritage features listed above, the alternative design concepts will recognize the sensitivity of these natural areas. Any future works will avoid and mitigate negative impacts to the Core Natural Heritage System wherever possible and consider enhancement of the features and associated buffers.

After habitat has been evaluated and delineated the guiding principle in limiting impacts will be to protect habitat to maintain habitat function. Standard mitigation measures to minimize impacts during construction phases (e.g., erosion and sediment control plans, spill plans, etc.) will be included. To prevent long-term impacts such as road mortality and hydrology changes various road designs that include road ecology principles will be explored and incorporated (e.g., **elevated road or tunnels and fencing**). Habitat enhancement, restoration, and compensation will also be required. Long-term monitoring and adaptive mitigation/monitoring will also be included in the recommendations to ensure impacts to the surrounding habitat features are reduced and mitigated.

### 6.5 Consultation on Preferred Solution

As required by the Municipal Class EA process, the public, Indigenous Communities, government agencies, and key stakeholders were contacted to share the results of the evaluation of alternative solutions and obtain input on the preferred solution.

A discussion of consultation process is provided in Section 5. Following the Public Information Centre #2, the project proceeded to Phase 3 of the Municipal Class EA process, where alternative design concepts for the Merritt Road and Rice Road improvements were identified and evaluated to identify a recommended design.

How will the fencing be used?

While fencing could assist in avoiding road mortality, it would also create a larger barrier for wildlife movement. Again, would the proponent consider installing wildlife corridor areas or using underpasses that are fitted for all wildlife: amphibian, fish and larger mammals? Could the fencing be used to guide wildlife to safe road crossing locations?

Please refer to previous comments for links regarding BMPs for animal crossings.


Here are resources for sizing culverts (underpasses) appropriately for all wildlife including large mammals.

A worry for SNWSO is that if flooding rates continue to overburden the area, culverts may not be the best wildlife crossing for mammals, as they may become flooded leaving little to no space for mammals to get air.

Arizona Game and Fish Department, Habitat Branch (2006). **Guidelines for Culvert Construction to Accommodate Fish & Wildlife Movement and Passage.**

<https://fcds.org.co/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/culvert-guidelines-for-wildlife-crossings.pdf>

Brunen, B., Daguet, C., and Jaeger, J. A. G. (2020). **What attributes are relevant for drainage culverts to serve as efficient road crossing structures for mammals?** Journal of Environmental Management, 268. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2020.110423>

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Impacts to water regimes and quality.  
Impacts to soil quality and permeability.

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**7.3.1 Road Alignment Alternatives**

**7.3.1.1 Identification of Road Alignment Alternatives for Segments 1, 2, 3 and 4**

The table below lists the road alignment alternatives that were identified as part of Phase 3 of the Class EA process for this project. These alternatives and their evaluation process are discussed in further detail in subsections below.

**Table 7-1: Road Alignment Alternatives**

Road Segment	Alternatives for Cross-Sections
<b>Segment 1: Merritt Road (Rice Road to Cataract Road)</b>	Alternative A: Centre Alignment Alternative B: Hybrid Alignment
<b>Segment 2: Merritt Road (Cataract Road to Merrittville Highway / Niagara Street)</b>	Alternative A: Centre Alignment Alternative B: South Alignment Alternative C: Hybrid Alignment
<b>Segment 3: Merritt Road (Merrittville Highway / Niagara Street to Highway 406)</b>	Alternative A: Centre Alignment Alternative B: North Alignment Alternative C: North Alignment with Adjusted Curve
<b>Segment 4: Rice Road (200m north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road)</b>	Alternative A: Centre Alignment Alternative B: Hybrid Alignment

**7.3.1.2 Evaluation Criteria for Road Alignment Alternatives**






The following evaluation criteria was identified to evaluate the road alignment alternatives:

**Table 7-2: Evaluation Criteria for Alternative Alignments**

Factor	Evaluation Criteria
Transportation	<b>Safety/Road Geometry:</b> Ability to improve sightlines and horizontal alignment and ability to provide safe access to driveways and properties along the corridor
Socio-economic Environment	<b>Private Property Impacts:</b> Private property taking <b>Lifestyle Disruption:</b> Potential for lifestyle disruption effects to residents such as noise or visual impacts <b>Agricultural Land:</b> Potential for loss of agricultural land
Natural Environment	<b>Terrestrial Environment:</b> Impacts on terrestrial resources (vegetation, wetlands, trees and wildlife) <b>Aquatic Environment:</b> Impacts to fish and fish habitats
Cultural / Archaeological Environment	<b>Archaeological Resources:</b> Impacts on lands identified to retain potential archaeological resources <b>Built Heritage and Cultural Resources:</b> Impacts on built heritage and cultural heritage landscapes
Engineering/Constructability	<b>Utilities:</b> Impacts on utilities <b>Drainage:</b> Impacts on existing culverts and ditches and ability to facilitate drainage systems


**7.3.1.3 Evaluation of Road Alignment Alternatives for Segments 1, 2, 3 and 4**

The alternatives were assigned a score based on the scoring system presented below:

				
Highest negative impacts or lowest benefits	Higher negative impacts or lower benefits	Moderate negative impacts and benefits	Lower negative impacts or greater benefits	Lowest negative impacts or greatest benefits































Alternatives represented by a full dark circle symbol were given the highest score where the evaluation criteria resulted in the lowest anticipated impacts, or highest benefits



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**Table 7-4: Evaluation of Road Alignment Alternatives for Segment 2**


Evaluation Criteria	Alternative A: Central Alignment	Alternative B: South Alignment	Alternative C: Hybrid Alignment
<b>Transportation</b>			
Safety/Road Alignment			
<b>Socio-economic Environment</b>			
Private Property Impacts			
Lifestyle Disruption			
Agricultural Land			
<b>Natural Environment</b>			
Terrestrial Environment			
Aquatic Environment			
<b>Cultural Environment</b>			
Archaeological Resources			
Built Heritage and Cultural Resources			
<b>Engineering</b>			
Utilities			
Drainage			
<b>Overall Recommendation</b>	Not Recommended	Recommended	Not Recommended

As previously stated, the protection of the environment should be considered the top priority.

Alternative B has the highest potential for negative impact to the aquatic environment. This does not align with the Indigenous perspective.

Within this alternative the negative impacts to drainage are also the highest.

Would the proponent reconsider the alternatives listed to strongly advocate for the protection of the environment rather than the protection of private property?

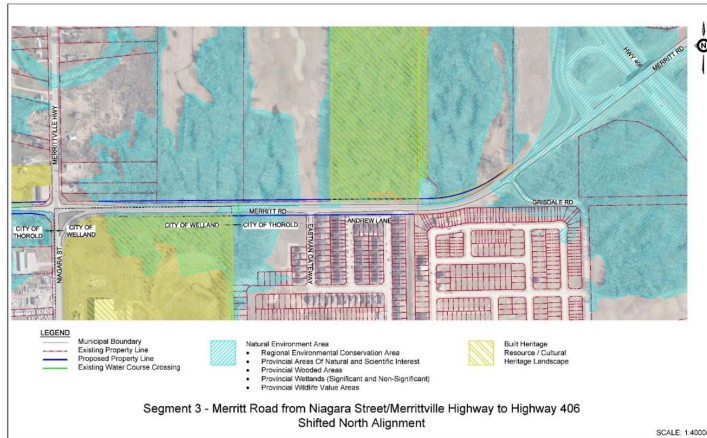
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Would the proponent reconsider the alternatives listed to strongly advocate for the protection of the environment rather than the protection of private property?

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**Alternative B - North Alignment** was identified as the preferred alignment for **Segment 3**. This alternative would involve widening the existing Merritt Road to 36 m wide road right of way between Merrittville Highway and Grisdale Road. The preliminary preferred alignment for Segment 3 is shown in Figure 7-3.

**Figure 7-3: Segment 3 - Alternative B: North Alignment (Widen to the north)**



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Please explain why impacts to the environment were not considered within this evaluation criteria. The environment should always be considered.

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- Rural Cross Section: A cross-section with partially paved shoulders with no curbs and ditches.
- Urban Cross Section: A cross-section with curbs with a storm sewer system.
- Hybrid Cross Section: A cross-section with curbs and ditches.

The table below briefly identifies the cross-section alternatives. Additional cross sections were identified but were ruled out due to the design constraints presented at the beginning of the memo provided in Appendix P. The alternatives listed below represent those cross sections that were short listed based on discussions with Regional staff. The alternatives, including their key design features and their evaluation process are discussed in further detail in subsections below.

**Table 7-7: Road Cross-Sections Alternatives**

Road Segment	Alternatives for Cross-Sections
<b>Segment 1: Merritt Road (Rice Road to Cataract Road)</b>	Alternative A: Rural Cross-section: Two travel lanes with shoulders, ditches, sidewalk on north side and cycle track on south side Alternative B: Hybrid (Rural-Urban) Cross-section: Two travel lanes with curbs and ditches, sidewalk and cycle track on north side
<b>Segment 2: Merritt Road (Cataract Road to Merrittville Highway / Niagara Street)</b>	Alternative A: Rural Cross-section: Two travel lanes with shoulder, ditches, sidewalk on north side and cycle track on south side Alternative B: Hybrid (Rural-Urban) Cross-section: Two travel lanes with curbs and ditches, sidewalk and cycle track on north side
<b>Segment 3: Merritt Road (Merrittville Highway / Niagara Street to Highway 406)</b>	Alternative A: Urban Cross-section: Four travel lanes, sidewalk and cycle track on south side Alternative B: Urban Cross-section: Four travel lanes with curbs and sidewalk and cycle track on both sides
<b>Segment 4: Rice Road (200m north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road)</b>	Alternative A: Rural Cross-section: Four drive lanes with ditches, sidewalk on both sides and cycle track on west side Alternative B: Hybrid (Rural-Urban) Cross-section: Four drive lanes with curbs and ditches, sidewalk on both sides and cycle track on west side

**7.3.2.2 Evaluation Criteria for Road Cross-Sections**


Evaluation criteria for road cross-section alternatives is provided in the table below.

**Table 7-8: Evaluation Criteria for Road Cross-Section Alternatives**

Factor	Evaluation Criteria
Transportation	<b>Active Transportation:</b> Potential to incorporate active transportation facilities for walking and cycling <b>Road Safety:</b> Potential to improve road safety and pedestrian and cyclists' safety
Engineering/Constructability	<b>Operation and Maintenance:</b> Feasibility of operation and maintenance <b>Stormwater Management:</b> Ability to provide opportunities to reduce stormwater quantity and/or improve stormwater quality
Cost	<b>Construction Cost:</b> Cost to construct <b>Operations and Maintenance Cost:</b> Cost to operate and maintain

**7.3.2.3 Evaluation of Road Cross-Sections for Segments 1, 2, 3 and 4**

Preferred road cross-section was selected for each road segment based on a detailed evaluation of road alignment alternatives using a set of criteria noted in the table above. Summary scoring tables are provided below. **For more details, please refer to the detailed evaluation of alternative design concepts provided in Appendix P.**





























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Please explain why it is thought that a traffic signal would have more impact on the terrestrial environment compared to a roundabout.

A roundabout will take up more space requiring more vegetation clearing and grading, and will create more impermeable surface.

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**Table 7-18: Evaluation of Road Intersection Alternatives for Rice Road and Quaker Road Intersection**

Evaluation Criteria	Alternative A: Traffic Signal	Alternative B: Roundabout
Transportation		
Road Safety		
Operations		
Road Corridor Consistency		
Socio-economic Environment		
Private Property Impacts		
Public Realm		
Natural Environment		
Terrestrial Environment		
Aquatic Environment		
Cultural Environment		
Archaeological Resources		
Built Heritage and Cultural Resources		
Engineering / Constructability		
Feasibility		
Implementation		
Utilities		
Cost		
Construction Cost		
Operation and Maintenance Cost		
Overall Recommendation	Recommended	Not Recommended

**Table 7-19: Preferred Intersection Improvements**

Intersection	Preferred Improvement
Merritt Road and Rice Road intersection	Alternative A: Traffic Signal
Merritt Road and Cataract Road intersection	Alternative A: Traffic Signal
Merritt Road and Merrittville Highway / Niagara Street intersection.	Alternative A: Traffic Signal (Remove Northbound Right Turn Channel)
Rice Road and Quaker Road intersection	Alternative A: Traffic Signal

Agreed!

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**7.4 Consultation on Preliminary Preferred Design**

As required by the Municipal Class EA process, the public, Indigenous Communities, government agencies, and key stakeholders were contacted to share the results of the evaluation of alternative design concepts and obtain input on the preferred design. A discussion of consultation process is provided in Section 5.

Following the Public Information Centre #3, the project proceeded to Phase 4 of the Municipal Class EA process, where this Environmental Study Report was developed.

**7.5 Revisions to Preferred Design following PIC #3**

Following PIC #3, the preliminary preferred design was reviewed and technical studies (e.g., Stormwater Management Assessment) were advanced. A need was identified to revise the design to avoid the need to further widen the road right-of-way and minimize impacts to the natural environment and private properties and consider drainage conveyance. Revisions were made to cross-sections for Segments 1, 2 and 4, whereby two-way cycle track and sidewalks were replaced with a multi-use path. The final preferred design is discussed in the following section.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:34:17 PM Status: <None>

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### 8.3 Proposed Road Design

The preferred design for Merritt Road and Rice Road is described in this section, and depicted on plans included in Appendix Q.

#### 8.3.1 Segment 1 – Merritt Road from Rice Road to Cataract Road

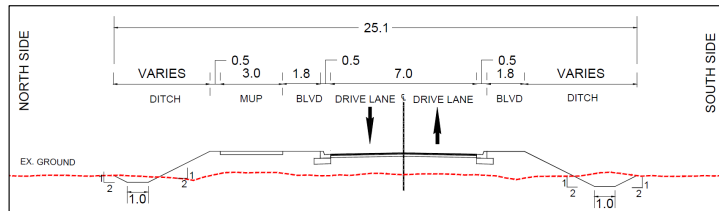
The proposed cross-section for Segment 1 is a Hybrid (Rural-Urban) Cross-section with following design features (based on Rural Scenic typology):

- Two 3.5 m drive lanes with curbs
- A 3.0 m multi-use path on the north side
- Ditches on both sides

This segment is located within the Town of Pelham and City of Thorold with a proposed right-of-way (ROW) of 25.1 metres to accommodate a multiuse path along the north side allowing space for a utility corridor, **boulevard space for street furniture, and landscape treatment**. The proposed cross-section for Segment 1 is shown below. The ultimate configuration for lighting for roadway and active transportation facilities will be determined during detailed design phase.

It is important to note that Segment 1 is currently under the ownership of the Town of Pelham and the City of Thorold. Following the completion of the Class EA Study, the ownership will need to be transferred to the Niagara Region.

**Figure 8-1: Proposed Cross-Section for Segment 1 – Merritt Road, from Rice Road to Cataract Road**



#### 8.3.2 Segment 02 – Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street

The proposed cross-section for Segment 2 is a Hybrid (Rural-Urban) Cross-section with following design features (based on Urban General - typology):

- Two 3.5 m drive lanes with curbs
- A 3.0 m multi-use path on the north side
- Ditches on both sides

This segment is located within the City of Thorold with a proposed ROW of 25.1 metres to accommodate a multiuse path along the north side allowing space for a utility corridor, boulevard space for street furniture, and landscape treatment. Roadway

Please clarify what is meant regarding street furniture and landscape treatment.

Does the proponent intend to add benches within the MUP?

SNWSO is under the impression the MUP is for cycling and walking, as a method to encourage multi-modal transportation rather than single vehicle transportation.


Does the landscape treatment refer to mowing and/or use of chemical controls?

SNWSO encourages the proponent to avoid the use of chemical control and to minimize mowing, as these will have impacts for water contamination and wildlife (mortality for birds, insects, and herpetofauna). Instead SNWSO recommends that the proponent plant native low-growing species (e.g creeping thyme and wild flowers rather than grasses), as they can provide pollen, erosion control, trap sediments, and reduce the need for mowing.

#### **Native Low growing ground cover species:**

<https://www.inournature.ca/native-groundcovers>

<https://eising.ca/the-best-groundcovers-for-southern-ontario/>

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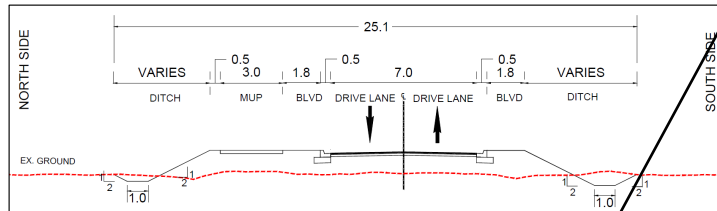
Will there be a monitoring plan associated with the street trees to ensure they successfully establish?

Will the proponent ensure that there is enough substrate/space for root growth?

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lighting will be located along the ditch line on the north side. The ultimate configuration for lighting for roadway and active transportation facilities will be determined during detailed design phase. The widened solution will allow for a drainage ditch along the south side and an area for woodlot protection and enhancements. The proposed cross-section for Segment 2 is shown below.

**Figure 8-2: Proposed Cross-Section for Segment 2 - Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street**



**8.3.3 Segment 03 – Merritt Road from Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street to Highway 406 Overpass/Kottmeier Road**

**Merritt Road from Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street to Grisdale Road**

The proposed cross-section for Segment 3 is an Urban Cross-section with following design features (based on Urban General typology):

- Four 3.3 m drive lanes separated by a 2.5 m median
- 1.8 m sidewalk on the south side
- A 3.6 m separated two-way cycle track on the south side

This segment is located within the City of Welland and City of Thorold with a proposed ROW of 31.2 metres to accommodate a cycle track and sidewalk along the south side allowing space for a utility corridor, boulevard space for **street trees**, and landscape treatment. The sidewalk and cycle track are separated by a tactile strip inlay to create two safe corridors while maintaining a uniform ground plane for snow removal in the winter months. Roadway lighting will be located along a centre median with a series of double luminaire poles. The ultimate configuration for lighting for roadway and active transportation facilities will be determined during detailed design phase. The widened solution will allow for the accommodation of a cycle track and sidewalk. The proposed cross-section for Segment 3 is shown below.



Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/1/2023, 4:49:47 PM Status: <None>

The south side contains more natural green space. Please prioritize the protection of the environment rather than private property.

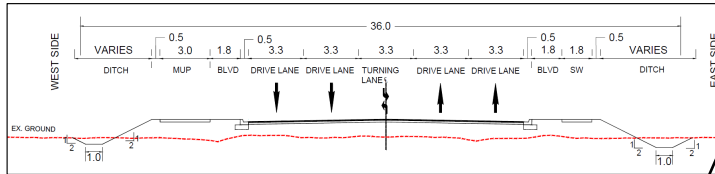
The same can be said for the expansion into the naturalized north side of segment 3.

Refer to previous comments.

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the east side to service the developed areas. These options allowed space for a utility corridor, boulevard space for street trees, and landscape treatment with street furniture locations. The proposed cross-sections for Segment 4 are shown below.

**Figure 8-5: Proposed Cross-Section for Segment 4 – Rice Road from Merritt Road to Quaker Road (with Centre Turning Lane)**



### 8.4 Horizontal Alignment and Vertical Profile

The proposed horizontal alignments and vertical profiles for Merritt Road and Rice Road are depicted on plans included in Appendix Q. The horizontal alignments and vertical profiles will be reviewed and finalized during detailed design phase and may be subject to refinement at that time.

#### Horizontal Alignment

Segment 1 (Merritt Road extension between Rice Road and Cataract Road) - The proposed horizontal alignment for the proposed will generally follow the existing unopened road allowance.


Segment 2 (Merritt Road between Cataract Road and Merrittville Highway/ Niagara Street) - The existing horizontal alignment will generally be maintained, but shifted to the south to accommodate the proposed widening which will occur to the south side of the existing roadway.

Segment 3 (Merritt Road between Merrittville Highway/ Niagara Street and Highway 406) - The existing horizontal alignment will generally be maintained, but shifted to the north to accommodate the widening which will occur to the north side of the existing roadway.

Segment 4 (Merritt Road between Quaker Road and approximately 200 metres north of Merritt Road) - The existing horizontal alignment will generally be maintained. The widening will generally occur on both side of the roadway, with the exception in the vicinity of Rosewood Crescent, where the widening will occur to the east side of the roadway.

#### Vertical Alignment

The vertical profile for all road segments will generally follow the existing ground profile to minimize grading and property impacts, and to match into the existing grades. Specific locations may require a slight raise in road profile to provide sufficient cover over the proposed culverts.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:35:09 PM Status: <None>

How will the proponent ensure that vegetated swales and LID will not become sources for contaminants entering the PSWs? Will a filtration system be considered?

Will there be efforts to plant salt tolerate and native species in these swales rather than non-native grasses?

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### 8.5 Intersection Improvements

Signalized intersections (traffic signals) with dedicated turn lanes are recommended for the following:

- Rice Road and Quaker Road intersection
- Rice Road and Merritt Road intersection
- Merritt Road and Cataract Road intersection

The existing signalized intersection at Merritt Road and Merrittville Highway / Niagara Street intersection is recommended to be maintained and the right turn channel on that intersection is recommended to be removed to improve future pedestrian and cyclist safety. Recommended configurations of intersections are shown in the preferred design plans in Appendix Q.

Detailed intersection design will be developed during detailed design phase. Intersections will be designed and constructed to fulfill *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA) requirements.

### 8.6 Pedestrian and Cycling Facilities

A 3.0 m multi-use path is recommended along north side of Merritt Road, that would run in an east-west direction between Rice Road and Merrittville Highway/Niagara Street (i.e., Segments 1 and 2). In this stretch, the multi-use path is recommended on the north side of Merritt Road to provide direct access to the existing residences and commercial development that are located along that side of the road.

This active transportation facility transitions to the south side of Merritt Road into a two-way cycle track, which runs in an east-west direction until Grisdale Road. For this stretch, the sidewalk and the cycle track are recommended along the south side of Merritt Road to provide direct access to the existing Merritt Meadows subdivision and any future development on that side of the road. East of the Grisdale Road, the two-way cycle track transitions into a multiuse path. This facility transitions to the north side at Highway 406 off-ramp and on-ramp intersection and continue on to end at Kottmeier Road.


Along Rice Road, between Quaker Road and Merritt Road, a 1.8m sidewalk is being recommended on the east side of the road, and a 3.0 multi-use path is being recommended on the west side.

The design of the pedestrian and cyclist crossings, including pavement markings, signage, and lights, will follow design standards from the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 15 and Book 18.

### 8.7 Urban Design / Streetscaping

The proposed streetscape treatment considered the following design criteria to create a functional and responsive design for the four (4) segments of the roadways:

- Vegetated Swales and Low Impact Development Best Management Practices are adopted in the rural sections to encourage sustainable designs for **storm water management and ground water recharge** as a climate adaptation solution for this region.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:36:08 PM Status: <None>

How large of a buffer zone is being allotted? Will native species be used? Will the buffer zones be managed for invasive species?

Again, SNWSO encourages a 30m buffer as a bare minimum. If a larger buffer can be used, please do so, as the Natural Heritage Reference Manual (2005) recommends a buffer of 120m.


However, please avoid cutting deeper into the woodlot to provide a larger buffer. That would no be a beneficial practice.

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- Proposed Natural Heritage System woodlot buffer zones to be planted with a mix of deciduous trees and medium shrubs to offer an enhanced environmental buffer to manage salt spray and urban pollution, to protect the NHS edges. Salt and pollution resistant species shall be in conformance to the approved list of species identified by the Niagara Peninsular Conservation Authority.
- The various site furniture typologies identified through Region's Complete Streets Manual shall be composed in a linear fashion to enhance the streetscapes and responsive to public and pedestrian safety criteria (The Complete Streets Manual was being developed at the time of preparation of this report). The functional composition of these street furniture shall be responsive to the municipal operations and maintenance requirements and winter maintenance and snow storage practices. Street furnishings may include benches, trash bins, municipal street signs, bicycle racks/parking units, destination identification and wayfinding. These furnishings may be located between tree plantings and aboveground service infrastructures, where spatially available. The frequencies, types and locations of these amenities shall require further discussions with the local municipalities during the design stages.
- Street tree placements shall be linear along the alignments of each roadway and spaced in accordance to proposed and existing built forms. High branching canopy trees are encouraged for areas clear of overhead utilities to provide protection from sun and wind. However, in areas where overhead utilities are present, small to medium sized trees planted in closer proximity may be used. All street trees specifications and species shall be subject to municipal and Niagara Peninsular Conservation Authority requirements and reviews, as well as in accordance with the Niagara Region's Master Street Tree Planting list.
- A composition of a cycle track and sidewalk shall be hard surfaces in conformance with Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements. At intersections, the project scope's street names may be etched/embossed into the surfaces to provide an identifiable signature to the proposed active transportation features within the study area. There shall be a 0.6 metre textured and coloured pavement strip to separate the cycle track and pedestrian sidewalk to negate potential user conflicts. The overall ground plane of the proposed cycle track and sidewalk shall be at the same grade to facilitate maintenance such as sweeping and snow removal with minimal encumbrances to municipal and regional service levels.

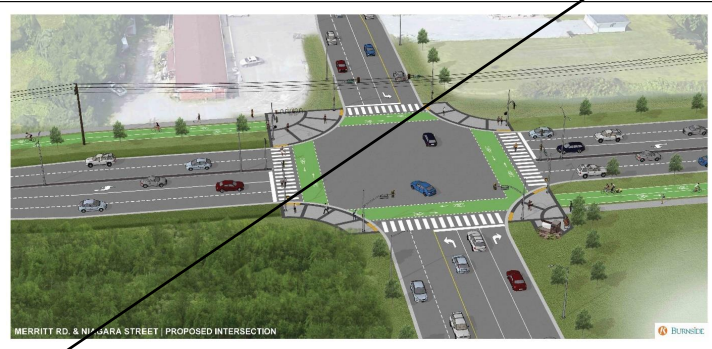
**Merritt Road and Niagara Street Intersection**

The following aerial oblique rendering (developed by R. J. Burnside) illustrates the logistical and functional design proposed for the flow of active transportation / cycle track, pedestrian sidewalk, and crosswalk in coordination with the live lanes of traffic. The four corners of the intersection present an ideal location for public realm placemaking treatment and an opportunity for a gateway/entrance feature with enhanced landscape treatment at the transition point of two municipalities.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:36:59 PM Status: <None>

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Figure 8-6: Conceptual Rendering of Merritt Road and Merrittville  
Highway/Niagara Street Intersection



## 8.8 Street Lighting

Niagara Region is responsible for the design and installation of roadway lighting on all roadways under its jurisdiction. Streetlights shall be installed along the subject road segments, in the ditches or in median, as appropriate. Illumination requirements shall be determined during detailed design in accordance with appropriate guidance documents, e.g., Niagara Region [Traffic Signal and Illumination Standards](#), Ontario Traffic Manual - Book 18 - Cycling Facilities (2021), and Transportation Association of Canada's Guide for the Design of Roadway Lighting (2006). Street lighting shall be designed such that it effectively illuminates the entire roadway as well as the cycle tracks and the sidewalk.


## 8.9 Access Management

As part of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan, the Region has developed a policy to manage access on Regional Roads. Region's goal is to maintain effective traffic flow on Regional Roads by minimizing entrances, where reasonable. The policy specifies that *"Direct access to/from Regional roads should be discouraged or denied except where no alternative exists."*


In accordance with Region's access management policy, existing accesses along Segments 1-3 (Merritt Road from Rice Road to Highway 406) have been maintained. A 2.5 m wide raised median has been recommended along portions of Segment 4 (Rice Road from Merritt Road to Quaker Road), where current accesses do not exist. For any future development along this segment, the Niagara Region will review future site plan applications, when submitted, and related accesses in accordance with the applicable standards. Where there are existing entrances and public road intersections along Rice Road, a two-way left turn lane is being recommended to maintain left turns.

Please refer to previous comments regarding lighting and the associated impacts. Lighting in areas that are forested on either side of the roadway, may have significant detrimental impacts for bats, moths and nocturnal flying birds. Please ensure mitigation measures are in place (shielded illumination to minimize light pollution and upward glares).

Please avoid the use of street lights if not entirely necessary. For example 2 lane roads may not require the street lighting.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:37:22 PM Status: <None>

Will this be a combination system (sewer and stormwater)? It may be better to have separate systems in order to avoid sewage overflows during high rainfall events. Having sewage enter the PSW/groundwater would be detrimental to the wildlife and environment.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/1/2023, 5:50:57 PM Status: <None>

Will these drainage systems (in all segments) be paired with a water quality treatment/control system?

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**Conveyance Criteria:** Minor Systems are to be designed to accommodate the 5-year return period storm event; note that Region owned sewer systems should limit surcharging during the 100-year event. Major Systems are to be designed to accommodate the 100-year storm event and will adhere to the maximum depth of flooding requirements based upon road classification.

**Watercourse Crossings:**

- Roadway crossings shall be designed in accordance with the MTO's Highway Drainage Standards (2008).
- Consideration for the Regulatory event shall be given, to ensure no impact to the Regulatory floodplain regulated by NPCA.

**8.11.2 Hydrologic Impacts**

From a hydrologic and hydraulic perspective, the proposed roadway designs will have impacts on the local conveyance system, as well as the downstream systems if left uncontrolled. The PCSWMM modelling developed for existing conditions was modified based upon the proposed roadway designs, to generate an "uncontrolled" proposed conditions model to identify the potential hydrologic impacts to the local system. A summary of the changes within each roadway segment is outlined as follows:

**Segment 1:** Under the existing condition, there is no constructed road in Segment 1. Consequently, the amount of additional impervious area that will drain into each outlet will be considerably higher, ranging between 5.2% and 34.8% under the proposed conditions. This substantial increase highlights the larger impact that the proposed condition will have on the overall imperviousness of the area if left uncontrolled.

The proposed roadway profile for Segment 1 has identified four (4) low spots / outlet locations, including a total of three (3) required cross-culverts (for both regulated watercourses / connections through the Provincially Significant Wetland), as well as the eastern portion of Segment 1 draining to Cataract Road and continuing north to the main branch of Singers Drain.

**Segment 2:** In Segment 2, there will be an estimated increase of approximately 2.4% in impervious areas under the proposed conditions. It is crucial to emphasize that this specific area has a history of recurrent flooding issues, mainly due to localized low points and very flat topography on Merritt Road, resulting in standing water.

The proposed roadway profile for Segment 2 has attempted to rectify the local grading issues by providing a positive slope towards both Cataract Road and Merrittville Highway, however there are limitations given the grading impacts to the adjacent properties.

**Segment 3:** Road improvements in this segment will increase approximate total impervious area by 6.8% and the storm drainage will be collected through a future storm sewer system. The roadway profile is generally maintained as per existing conditions; Therefore, the impacts are expected to be a result of the increased impervious areas only.

**Segment 4:** Segment 4 roadway improvements would increase the total impervious area draining to each outlet between 0.4% and 5.6%. As this is an existing roadway with

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The data in Table 8-5 indicates that the proposed roadway design results in a range of differences in both total contributing drainage area (due to any grading / high point shifts), as well as changes to the level of imperviousness for each respective outlet. Most outlets experience increases in either drainage area or level of imperviousness, however, some outlets experience a decrease in contributing drainage area or imperviousness due to any grading changes which might impact the outlet locations. These changes in drainage area will inherently have an impact on both the amount and quality of stormwater runoff, resulting in a need for stormwater management controls to minimize any risk to downstream receivers.

**8.11.3 Proposed Stormwater Management Strategy**


This section provides a summary of the proposed stormwater management strategy. For detailed information, please refer to the Stormwater Management and Hydraulic Assessment Report provided in Appendix F.

The proposed stormwater management strategy for the proposed road improvements includes the following elements:

- Water quantity controls are required for all individual outlets within the road ROW to control post-development flows to pre-development conditions. The recommended strategies to provide water quantity control include:
  - Temporary storage through the roadside ditches, and through the implementation of rock check dams / orifice controls for the Segments 1, 2 and 4.
  - Application of underground storage (i.e., super pipe or cellular tank storage, etc.) as part of the proposed storm sewer within Segment 3. Storm sewers for Segment 3 shall be designed as part of detailed design phase.
- Erosion control is to be provided through the application of Low Impact Development (LID) Best Management Practices (BMPs) designed to retain the Runoff Volume Control Target as identified through the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' Draft Low Impact Development Stormwater Management Guidance Manual (i.e., 28-29 mm) for the increased impervious area within each roadway Segment. The LID BMPs may include infiltration trenches beneath the roadside ditches (hybrid segments), or Silva Cells / Bioretention features within the urban segment. The subsurface soil and groundwater conditions are required to be confirmed through detailed design phase throughout the project area to confirm that the LID BMPs can be designed to provide the required infiltration / retention.
- The Runoff Volume Control Target of 28-29 mm is to be provided to the extent feasible based on physical and site constraints with a flexible approach to both surface and subsurface storage systems, and that the target may not be feasible in some locations due to local constraints.
- Enhanced Level of water quality control is to be provided for the increased impervious area within each roadway segment through the implementation of LID BMPs such as enhanced grass swales within the hybrid roadway segments, or the combination of conventional practices (i.e., Oil and Grit Separator units, Catch Basin shields, etc.) acting as pre-treatment with LID BMPs as part of the urban segment.

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Please avoid dewatering.


However if it must occur for this installation;  
How will contaminants, and sediments be prevented from entering the PSW/tributaries?  
How will erosion be controlled both during and post-installation?

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Could these rock check dams be paired with semi-aquatic vegetation?  
Alternatively, could woody debris vs hard rock be used as a more naturalized method for quantity control? The vegetation may assist in water filtration, and create a more naturalized system to prevent erosion and hold water.

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SNWSO supports the use of the LID BMPs and Silva cells/bio-retention features. As previously recommended, the use of softer erosion prevention techniques could also be effective. Ex. anchored logs, Live fascines, coir fiber logs, toe woods, sod mats, fabric encapsulated soil lifts, woody debris (brush mattress) etc.  
Please refer to previous comment for resources.

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/1/2023, 6:11:29 PM Status: <None>

Please use native grasses or plants.



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- Culverts / bridges crossing beneath roads classified as Major Collector, with a span less than 6.0 m, are to convey the peak flow generated from a 25-year storm event; and
- Culverts / bridges crossing beneath roads classified as Major Collector, with a span greater than 6.0 m, are to convey the peak flow generated from a 50-year storm event.
- Culverts / bridges crossing beneath roads classified as Major Collector are required to provide a freeboard greater than or equal to 1.0 m for the 50-year storm.

The preliminary structure sizing has been determined through an iterative analysis in attempt to achieve the design criteria mentioned above, as well as to minimize any impacts to the 100-year floodplain within Segment 1. The proposed conditions HEC-RAS model was simulated for the 2, 5, 10, 25, 50 and 100-year events, to complete a validation of the aforementioned design criteria, and indicate any potential impacts for local flood hazards. A summary of the evaluation of design criteria for each new or upgraded structure has been summarized in Table 8-7, documenting the water surface elevation and freeboard during the 25-year, 50-year as well as the 100-year events. The culverts are shown visually on the Drainage Plans in Appendix E of the Stormwater Management and Hydraulic Assessment Report (provided in Appendix F).

**Table 8-7: Preliminary Structure Size Performance – Clearance and Freeboard**

Structure ID (Road)	Preliminary Structure Size	Storm Event	Q (m³/s)	U/S WSE (m)	Upstream Soffit Elev. (m)	Sag Point in Road (m) <sup>1</sup>	Freeboard From Sag Point (m)	Meeting MTO Criteria?
N1 (Rice Rd)	3 m (W) x 0.9m (H)	25Y	2.18	185.48	185.82	186.36	+0.88	No
		50Y	2.64	185.58	185.82	186.36	+0.78	No
		100Y	3.11	185.67	185.82	186.36	+0.69	No
C1 (Rice Rd)	3m (W) x 0.6m (H)	25Y	0.64	186.93	187.10	188.00	+1.07	Yes
		50Y	0.74	186.95	187.10	188.00	+1.05	Yes
		100Y	0.84	186.98	187.10	188.00	+1.02	Yes
C2 (Merritt Rd)	6m (W) x 0.9m (H)	25Y	0.69	182.04	182.63	183.22	+1.18	Yes
		50Y	0.80	182.08	182.63	183.22	+1.14	Yes
		100Y	1.07	182.13	182.63	183.22	+1.09	Yes
S1 (Rice Rd)	6m (W) x 0.9m (H)	25Y	5.93	186.78	186.68	187.12	+0.34	No
		50Y	6.89	186.82	186.68	187.12	+0.30	No
		100Y	7.85	186.87	186.68	187.12	+0.25	No
S2 (Merritt Rd)	15m (W) x 0.9m (H)	25Y	5.93	182.1	182.44	182.62	+0.52	No
		50Y	6.89	182.14	182.44	182.62	+0.48	No
		100Y	7.85	182.17	182.44	182.62	+0.45	No

Note: <sup>1</sup> Sag point elevation is based upon the preliminary road profile. The sag points may be offset from the culvert crossing and may not be indicative of cover on top of the culvert.

Based upon the performance results provided in Table 8-7, the preliminary structure sizing includes open bottom concrete box culverts ranging in span from 3 m wide, upwards of 15 m wide, and relatively shallow depths of 0.6 m or 0.9 m. In terms of the MTO criteria, the two (2) structures along the Center Tributary are capable of providing the 1 m freeboard for the 25-year, 50-year and 100-year storm events. The North Tributary structure has a freeboard of approximately 0.7 m up to 0.9 m, through the range of events. This does not meet the MTO requirements, however through some

Please consider the potential for culverts to be used as wildlife underpasses and simultaneously to convey water flow. Refer to previous comment for resource links.

Please use a Stream Simulation design or Natural Channel Design to allow the culvert's bottom to remain as natural as possible. This way aquatic organisms (fish, anurans, turtles, salamanders etc) are still able to navigate through the culverts and have safe passage under roadways.

Here are a few resources to assist designing the naturalization of open bottom culverts:

Dol, B.A. et. al. (2003). **Stream Restoration: A Natural Channel Design Handbook**. North Carolina Stream Restoration Institute and North Carolina Sea Grant.  
[https://www.bae.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/sr\\_guidebook.pdf](https://www.bae.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/sr_guidebook.pdf)

U.S. Forest Service Stream-Simulation Working Group. (2008). **Stream Simulation: an ecological approach to Providing Passage for aquatic organisms at road-Stream Crossings**.  
[https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/fsm91\\_054564.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fsm91_054564.pdf)

Wheaton J.M. et. al. (2019). **Low-Tech Process Based Restoration of Riverscapes: Design Manual**. Utah State University Restoration Consortium.  
DOI:10.13140/RG.2.2.19590.63049/2



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restriction windows shall be incorporated into the project construction approach and schedule. These timing windows include, but are not limited to the following:

**Migratory and Breeding Birds:**


- Removal of vegetation to accommodate the construction of the project could directly harm nesting birds. This impact can be avoided by removing vegetation outside of the typical bird nesting period in this area (late March to late August). These timing constraints shall not be perceived as absolutes. This period represents the core breeding period, although some species may nest in March and September. Ultimately, the objective from a compliance perspective is to not circumvent the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and its regulations. Due diligence measures should be implemented and documented for any nest searching efforts, including record control, to ensure compliance with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*.
- Additionally, the nests of the Pileated Woodpecker, Great Blue Heron, and Green Heron have year-round protection from destruction unless they have been shown to be abandoned. If the nest of these species has not been occupied by a migratory bird for the entirety of the waiting time indicated, it is considered to be abandoned and no longer has high conservation value for migratory birds. The waiting time for Pileated Woodpecker is 36 months, and the waiting time for Great Blue Heron and Green Heron is 24 months. To avoid contravention of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and updated regulations, it is recommended that breeding bird surveys continue for three successional years before vegetation removal and included search effort for Pileated Woodpecker, Great Blue Heron, and Green Heron nests (i.e., wildlife sweeps).

**Species at Risk Bats:**

- No vegetation removal shall occur from April 1 to September 30 to avoid impacts to species at risk bats (permitting and consultation with MECP are required).

**Fish and Fish Habitat:**


- Any in-water works shall be avoided from March 1 to July 1 of any given year to protect critical life stages of the resident fish species. This in-water works restriction timing window was identified by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

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Note this recommendation supports the highly advocated use of multi-year/multi-season survey protocol.

Currently the proponent has completed 2 surveys all within the month of June 2021. Several more seasons/years of surveys should be conducted.

Again, SNWSO recommends completing multi-season and multi-year surveys, for all wildlife (including species that have yet to be assessed-herpetofauna and salamanders, benthics). As this will help to create a more comprehensive understanding of the ecosystems and species present, and will inform appropriate mitigation and accommodation measures to be taken.

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Will other aquatic species also be considered : anurans, salamanders etc.

Please have a qualified ecologist/biologist on site, who can assist in rescuing and relocating any encountered wildlife to a suitable habitat outside of the construction work area, especially before any work occurring near or in water.

A qualified ecologist should be trained and experienced with working in accordance with the MNRF's Species at Risk Handling Manual.

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**9.2.3 Noise**

**9.2.3.1 Potential Effects**

The properties along subject road segments will experience higher noise levels during construction. Noise effects during construction will be associated with excavation, drilling, vehicular truck traffic and operation of heavy machinery. These impacts will be temporary in nature and largely unavoidable.

**9.2.3.2 Mitigation Measures**

To minimize the potential for construction noise effects, it is recommended that provisions be written into the contract documentation for the contractor, as outlined below:

- All equipment shall be properly maintained to limit noise emissions. As such, all construction equipment shall be operated with **effective muffling devices** that are in good working order
- There shall be explicit indication in contract documents that Contractors are expected to comply with all applicable requirements of the contract and noise control by-laws of the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland, as may be applicable.
- The Contract documents should contain a provision that any initial noise complaint will trigger verification that the general noise control measures agreed to above are in effect.

**9.2.4 Air Quality**

**9.2.4.1 Potential Effects**

The construction activities are anticipated to affect the local air quality. These effects include dust from various material handling operations and combustion emissions from construction equipment. Such emissions will be of a temporary nature and the effects are **not predicted to move far from the immediate vicinity of the construction activities.**


**9.2.4.2 Mitigation Measures**

Recommendations for mitigation measures for reducing construction related air quality impacts are discussed in the "Best Practices for the Reduction of Air Emissions from Construction and Demolition Activities" (Cheminfo Services Inc., 2005). Standard mitigation measures and non-chloride dust suppressants identified in this document should be utilized during construction to mitigate impacts on air quality. Typical mitigation measures include the following:

- Scheduling of construction works to consider weather forecast to take advantage of precipitation for natural dust suppression
- Construction activities and the site shall be monitored for wind direction and weather conditions to ensure that high-impact activities be reduced when the wind is blowing consistently towards nearby critical and sensitive receptors. **Visible fugitive dust shall also be monitored and immediate action shall be taken to determine the root-cause in order to counteract this**
- Each area of the construction site shall be graded separately (i.e., not all at once), timed to coincide with the actual construction in that area. This allows vegetation and

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Will vibration dampeners also be used?


Will construction take place within the daylight? Construction should be limited to daylight to avoid disrupting wildlife, as many species are most active during the night.

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Dust can travel via wind and water, resulting in increased sedimentation and coating vegetation. It is possible that the impacts from dust could travel well beyond the immediate vicinity of construction.

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Will sediment fences be used as a wind break to trap dust? While dust is airborne, fences should be used to stop some dust from traveling and coating the surrounding vegetation. However, this is not a perfect solution.

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- cover to remain intact within the construction zone, until just prior to construction occurring on that segment of the construction site
- Construction activities shall be scheduled and planned to limit areas of exposed soil at any given time (i.e., clear vegetation, but strategically grub)
- Site layout shall be planned to maximize separation from machinery and dust-causing activities
- Ensure that equipment (and adequate water supply, if applicable) required for dust control and trained workers are available at work site prior to commencing construction activities with potential for dust generation
- Exposed ground surfaces shall be stabilized with non-erodible material as soon as practicably possible after construction in the affected area where soil surfaces will remain exposed for extended periods
- Construction vehicles / machinery and equipment shall be in good repair, equipped with emission controls, as applicable, properly maintained and operated within regulatory requirements
- A minimal number of machines operating in any one area should be carefully considered during construction activities
- Minimize idling of equipment and trucks located in queuing areas in proximity of residences and other establishments

### 9.3 Cultural Environment

#### 9.3.1 Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscape

##### 9.3.1.1 Potential Effects

There is potential for direct impacts to one (1) potential heritage property, CHR 8 (1100 Niagara Street) as a result of the construction of a proposed sidewalk, bike path and grass path within the property.


There is potential for indirect impacts to three (3) potential heritage properties, CHR 1 (402 Regional Road 54), CHR 3 (436 Quaker Road) and CHR 5 (1173 Merrittville Highway) resulting from minor property acquisitions.

##### 9.3.1.2 Mitigation Measures

Should direct impacts to the potential heritage property CHR 8 (1100 Niagara Street) be required and no other technically feasible options are available, then a Heritage Impact Assessment shall be prepared for this property at the outset of the detailed design phase of the project.


The project shall be planned in a manner that minimizes encroachment on potential heritage properties CHR 1 (402 Regional Road 54), CHR 3 (436 Quaker Road) and CHR 5 (1173 Merrittville Highway).

In addition, post-construction landscaping shall be completed to return the landscape to pre-construction conditions. If feasible, post-construction landscaping should use plant species that are native to Ontario.

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Planting vegetation shortly after construction or "stabilize as you go" is good practice to avoid dust, erosion, sedimentation, and the spread of invasive/non-native species. Using erosion control blankets is a good temporary control measure (overnight or in heavy rainfall events). However, SNWSO encourages the proponent to have permanent ground cover or vegetation placed within 48 hrs post-construction (for each recently completed area within each segment). Having a vegetation planting plan ready to deploy is necessary to avoid any environmental impacts during construction.

Planting immediately post-construction within an affected area may be dually advantageous, as water to suppress dust will already be required and on-hand, the newly planted vegetation could be watered simultaneously rather than having to send separate crews out to water and maintain the vegetation.


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Native vegetation should be required, not only "if feasible."

If there was a patch of English/Baltic ivy (a non-native plant with invasive properties), the homeowner should be given a list of native species to chose an alternative from.

Many ornamental species tend to become invasive if left unmaintained, and do little (if anything) to help our native pollinators thrive.

Please refer to the "**Grow Me Instead**" guide.  
[www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Southern-Grow-Me-Instead-1.pdf](http://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Southern-Grow-Me-Instead-1.pdf)

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:48:32 PM Status: <None>

Please provide more information as to what temporary measures will be implemented. Silt fencing, filtration systems, control blankets?

Please ensure silt fencing and other mitigation measures are installed properly, and checked on daily, to ensure that the fence or blanket has not shifted (ripped or slumped) and is still functioning as intended. Will a specialist install the fences or will it be the responsibility of the contractors?

SNWSO encourages the proponent to use multiple methods to manage runoff, beyond sediment fencing. The potential for contamination and sedimentation is high, due the road-works proximity to wetlands and watercourses, and it is unlikely sediment fencing will catch enough to maintain/improve water quality. Especially if the fencing is to be removed post-construction, there will need to be another mitigation measure for sedimentation/contamination in place during operation.

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Following standard measures will apply during construction:

- Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may indicate a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological assessment, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act.
- The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 requires that any person discovering human remains must cease all activities immediately and notify the police or coroner. If the coroner does not suspect foul play in the disposition of the remains, in accordance with Ontario Regulation 30/11, the coroner shall notify the Registrar, Ontario Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, which administers provisions of that Act related to burial sites. In situations where human remains are associated with archaeological resources, the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) shall also be notified (at archaeology@ontario.ca) to ensure that the archaeological site is not subject to unlicensed alterations which would be a contravention of the Ontario Heritage Act.
- Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48 (1) of the Ontario Heritage Act and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.


## 9.4 Natural Environment

Project's potential effects on natural environmental were assessed and mitigation measures were proposed as part of EIS. As noted previously, the EIS was completed in accordance with the Terms of Reference developed in consultation with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority and in accordance with Niagara Region's Environmental Impact Study Guidelines (Niagara Region, 2018). The EIS was shared with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority on April 28, 2023, for their review. The EIS was accepted by the Authority on June 15, 2023.


### 9.4.1 Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

#### 9.4.1.1 Potential Effects

Watercourses containing fish habitat were documented in the Study Area; therefore, *Fisheries Act* applies to this Project. The death of fish and the harmful alteration, destruction, and displacement of fish habitat must be prevented or permitted through an authorization by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada will inform appropriate timing windows to complete the work and the effort required (i.e., fish salvage). Sediment and erosion control measures installed in adjacent areas to wetlands and the watercourse should aid in preventing sediment spills in aquatic habitats. Additionally, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has identified restricted in-water works timing windows for tributaries of the Welland Canal from March 1<sup>st</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>.

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Please clarify and expand on this. Will the substrate be cleaned of toxins?  
Will the vegetation be planted to help naturalize the substrate?  
Will stream simulation design take place?  
How exactly does the proponent plan to restore the stream substrate?

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:50:42 PM Status: <None>

What measures will be taken to remove sediments or contaminants from the runoff?  
Will the drainage be filtrated? Will drainage run through the previously mentioned oil and grit separators before it is released?  
Water is life. Please take every precaution available in order to avoid reducing water quality.

SNWSO encourages the proponent to go above and beyond, and strive to improve the water quality. The Indigenous Perspective is that we are obligated to future generations and must ensure that there is a healthy environment to use and live.

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Crossings 1, Crossing 3, Crossing 4, Crossing 5, Crossing 7, Crossing 8, and Crossing 9 have been identified as suitable or seasonally suitable fish habitat. Dewatering activities could cause impacts on fish and fish habitat by:

- Direct mortality if fish are present or spawning occurs in the watercourses
- The introduction of warmer water from ponds into colder surface watercourses
- Modification or removal of aquatic habitat; displacement of plants and animals
- Increased nutrient loading of existing habitats

If the connectivity of watercourses is maintained in detailed design, these effects are expected to remain as short-term; they could become long-term if not mitigated properly. The death of fish and the harmful alteration, destruction, and displacement of fish habitat must be permitted through a Fisheries and Oceans Canada authorization as impacts can not be avoided. During detailed design, the following must be provided during Fisheries and Oceans Canada consultation/Request for Review (RFR):

- Whether the project includes work in water – if so, whether the work will be below the high-water mark,
- Project components that are proposed in or near water for each crossing (including riparian vegetation or
- sediment removal, temporary or permanent shoreline protection and ESC measures, temporary re-routing of the during construction, etc.),
- A brief description/list of the construction materials, methods, and equipment that is planned to be used, and
- detailed design drawings.

**9.4.1.2 Mitigation Measures**

Proposed mitigation measures include:


- Appropriate selection of erosion and sediment control measures on ponding sites and design (if applicable) and choose suitable sites for stream diversions,
- Any drainage should infiltrate into the groundwater system,
- Stage work to non-critical fishery time window,
- Restoration of stream substrate, and
- Provisions for spill control.

**9.4.2 Terrestrial Resources - Short-term Effects**


Specific short-term impacts are described below and summarized with mitigation measures. If mitigation measures such as removing vegetation outside of the active window, wildlife sweeps, and appropriate selection and enforcement of erosion and sediment control measures and other plans are implemented, the short-term impacts listed below are expected to be mitigated and not result in a negative impact.

**9.4.2.1 Potential Effects on Migratory Birds**

Most species of birds in Canada are protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, through the *Migratory Birds Regulations* and the *Migratory Birds Sanctuary Guidelines*. These policies and regulations protect listed migratory bird species, their nests, eggs, and offspring. They protect migratory bird nests when they are considered

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Great!

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If vegetation removal must occur during the bird nesting season, please conduct nest searches in all ecosystems/ELC communities. Whether the landscape is complex or simple. While there is a risk of disturbing or missing nesting birds in more dense woodlots/scrub lands (complex) vs simple areas, this risk is outweighed by the risk of damaging nests/birds via bulldozers and chainsaws.

Please use qualified ecologist to conduct nest searches prior to clearing. SNWSO strongly encourages that the ecologist is third party, to avoid bias for construction deadlines or work site pressures.

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to have a high conservation value for migratory birds (i.e., generally during the nesting period). Removal of vegetation to accommodate the construction of the project could directly harm nesting birds.

**9.4.2.2 Mitigation Measures**

To prevent harm to nesting birds, removal of vegetation (including trees and shrubs) shall be completed outside of the typical bird nesting period in this area (late March to late August).

For activities (including vegetation removal) that must occur during bird nesting season, surveys to identify nesting activity should be completed by an experienced Avian Biologist within 24 hours of scheduled work activities. Nest surveys should only be completed in simple habitats such as singular trees where all elements of the vegetation can be thoroughly observed. Complex habitats, such as vegetation communities with layers and dense foliage, reduce the certainty of capturing all potential breeding and can not be reliably cleared for removal. The Avian Biologist conducting the nest sweeps must be able to identify birds by species and be knowledgeable of nesting seasons and activities for appropriate species. Due to the uncertainty that lies with nest sweeps during construction, especially during leaf-on conditions, it is, as noted, recommended that all vegetation clearing activities occur outside of the above noted bird nesting window. In the event that bird nests protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, *Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act*, or *Endangered Species Act* are encountered during construction, work must stop in the vicinity of the sighting until further direction is provided. These species and their nests must not be disturbed, tormented, injured in any way, destroyed, and/or separated from young. A protective buffer area should be established around the nest and should be determined in consultation with a qualified avian biologist, as well as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and/or Canadian Wildlife Service, as necessary.

Ultimately, the objective from a compliance perspective is to not circumvent the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and its regulations. Due diligence measures should be implemented and documented for any nest searching efforts, including record control, to ensure compliance with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*.

Additionally, the nests of the Pileated Woodpecker, Great Blue Heron, and Green Heron have year-round protection from destruction unless they have been shown to be abandoned. If the nest of these species has not been occupied by a migratory bird for the entirety of the waiting time indicated, it is considered to be abandoned and no longer has high conservation value for migratory birds. The waiting time for Pileated Woodpecker is 36 months, and the waiting time for Great Blue Heron and Green Heron is 24 months.

To avoid contravention of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and updated regulations, it is recommended that breeding bird surveys continue for three successional years before vegetation removal and included search effort for Pileated Woodpecker, Great Blue Heron, and Green Heron nests (i.e., wildlife sweeps). If a nest of one of these species is encountered and there is a need to damage, disturb, destroy, or remove the nest, it must be documented that the nest has remained unoccupied by a migratory bird



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for the waiting period (24 to 36 months depending on the species) and a notice must be submitted on the Abandoned Nest Registry (<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climatechange/services/migratory-bird-permits/notice-abandoned-nest-registry.html>).

**9.4.2.3 Potential Effects on Wildlife**

During site preparation and construction, wildlife may cross the site and be at risk for mortality. The probability that wildlife is found in the Study Area and does not leave on its own accord is medium to high.

In addition, construction activities may cause localized, short-term increases in noise, vibrations, and dust, which could disturb wildlife and deter animals from the area. Wildlife could also be disturbed by artificial lighting if construction occurs outside of daylight hours, and dust from work activities may settle on vegetation.

**9.4.2.4 Mitigation Measures**


To mitigate the risk of mortality, wildlife sweeps prior to vegetation removal must be completed. When wildlife cannot leave the area, permits under the *Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act* may be required. *Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act* permits are contractor specific, whereby the individual undertaking the work to rescue and relocate or collect wildlife and/or fish will be the responsible party required to obtain the necessary permits and approvals. Similar to *Migratory Birds Regulations*, the *Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act* also protects the nest or eggs of a bird that belongs to a species that is wild by nature from destruction. If a den or habitual dwelling of a forbearing mammal (other than a fox or skunk) is documented in wildlife sweeps, the habitat is protected from damage or destruction unless it is removed by a licensed trapper or authorized by the Minister.

The brush piles and other moveable habitat features in the area should be relocated before construction. As feasible, the work area shall be surrounded by a silt (exclusion) fence within 48 hours of the commencement of construction activities to keep wildlife out of the site. The exclusion fencing shall be examined daily and repaired as needed to ensure it functions as intended.

Potential impacts on wildlife associated with artificial lighting can be mitigated by completing work in daylight hours only. In order to prevent impacts on wildlife as a result of noise and vibrations, equipment idling should be kept to a minimum during construction. Minimizing equipment idling will also reduce carbon emissions and reduce the overall carbon footprint of construction. A dust management plan should consider wind erosion of exposed stockpiles and faces by reducing the height of stockpiles (i.e., maximum of 5 m in height), suspend excavation and dump truck loading if wind speed exceeds 60 km/hr. Loaded materials shall not exceed the dump truck tray wall. Best management and use practices and best management stormwater practices are required for pollution prevention and source control.

**9.4.2.5 Other Short-term Potential Effects**

The impacts below could lead to long-term impacts if left unchecked and unmitigated. If the below impacts occur, immediate action could rectify the impact and result in only a short-term influence. These impacts can largely be mitigated with an appropriate


 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:52:28 PM Status: <None>

The legislation around these species seems erroneous. SNWSO believes that ALL species of wildlife should be protected, as they all serve a purpose and are worthy of protection.


Foxes are included in many traditional teachings, and used for their pelts. Skunks are also included in traditional teachings and are potentially used in medicinal tinctures (skunk oil). Both species have and have a role in Haudenosaunee culture.

These animals, their habitual dwellings and nesting sites should be treated with the same respect that a SAR species would be.

SNWSO encourages the proponent to go above and beyond what legislation states, and take care of all wildlife.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 1:48:06 PM Status: <None>

Good!

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 2:49:52 PM Status: <None>

How far away from sensitive features will equipment re-fueling or maintenance take place?

Ideally the re-fueling/maintenance will occur at least 30m away (Natural Heritage Information Reference Manual- 120m buffer), and will occur on a concrete or impervious surface rather than on soil.



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- Staging and access areas will be minimized as feasible to avoid disturbing the natural environment beyond the proposed disturbance limit;
- Proper dewatering techniques and ensuring appropriate controls measures to collect sediment before entering the drainage channel, trench drainage should be discharged to settling areas before being permitted to enter surface waterbodies, such as sediment traps, seasonal constraints on construction, install check dams on drainage swales, buffers and setbacks;
- Ensure the appropriate use of culverts, porous backfill, tile drains, and apply natural channel design principles and bio-engineering techniques.
- Complete hydrogeologic investigations to identify shallow aquifers and springs in advance to develop alternatives to avoid impacts;
- Maintain the existing groundwater regime through engineering design, restrict the extent of impervious surfaces (e.g., staging) in zones of high infiltration, utilize appropriate backfill material;
- Prohibit access to the extent possible to any natural areas outside of the project footprint to ensure the protection of these areas; this includes temporary access. A sediment control fence should be installed around the perimeter of the work area to provide a visual barrier and isolate wildlife from the work area;
- Operate and store materials and equipment in such a manner that prevents any deleterious substance from entering the natural environment (e.g., construction refuelling precautions and sediment fencing at the base of stockpiles). Ensure a Spill Management Plan (including spill kit materials, instructions regarding their use, staff education, and emergency contact numbers) is present on-site at all times for implementation in the event of an accidental spill. Ensure fast, accurate reporting of spills and all spills are to be reported to the Spills Action Centre (SAC) at 1 800-268-6060. Have a contingency plan for clean-up;
- Ensure that machinery arrives on site in a clean condition and is maintained free of fluid leaks, invasive species and noxious weeds. Implement disinfection techniques in concert with fisheries requirements;
- Changes in vegetative composition as a result of loss of topsoil and subsoil or mixing can be mitigated by stripping and stockpiling of topsoil separate from the subsoil and replacing soils in preconstruction horizons;
- When seeding/restoring for Erosion and Sediment Control Plan purposes, use annuals which later die out and ensure only locally native species are used; and
- Identify local regulatory authorities and have contact information available on-site. Local regulatory authorities are to include the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, the Niagara Region, local area municipalities, and local emergency service providers.


**9.4.3 Terrestrial Resources - Long-term Effects**

Specific long-term impacts are described below and summarized with mitigation measures where applicable. Avoidance is often the prescribed mitigation measure where activities will result in a contravention of legislation or a negative impact. However, avoidance is not possible if development proceeds through an approved

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 2:14:06 PM Status: <None>

Please ensure that clean soils free of contaminants are used for backfilling.


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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:53:36 PM Status: <None>

Please expand. What alternatives might be used to avoid impacts?


The statement is very general, and SNWSO encourage the proponent to be clear and specific when it comes to mitigation measures.

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:54:07 PM Status: <None>

Could the fencing be used to guide wildlife to locations that are "safe" and to avoid the work area?


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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:55:14 PM Status: <None>

Stockpiles should be covered in addition to being fenced, as this will help to avoid particles from become airborne, and will prevent any wildlife from readily nesting or burrowing in the piles.


Soil tracking practices should be implemented. As this is critical for ensuring that contaminated soils do not end up where they shouldn't be. Please be diligent when moving or stockpiling contaminated soils. Ensure everyone on site is aware of the contaminated soils, and consider using signs or other visual cues to reduce the potential for these soils to be moved to high risk areas.

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 2:45:30 PM Status: <None>

As previously mentioned please ensure that the Clean Equipment Protocol for Industry is used. As this is a great way to avoid the spread of invasive species.

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:57:41 PM Status: <None>

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- Staging and access areas will be minimized as feasible to avoid disturbing the natural environment beyond the proposed disturbance limit;
- Proper dewatering techniques and ensuring appropriate controls measures to collect sediment before entering the drainage channel, trench drainage should be discharged to settling areas before being permitted to enter surface waterbodies, such as sediment traps, seasonal constraints on construction, install check dams on drainage swales, buffers and setbacks;
- Ensure the appropriate use of culverts, **porous backfill**, tile drains, and apply natural channel design principles and bio-engineering techniques.
- Complete hydrogeologic investigations to identify shallow aquifers and springs in advance to **develop alternatives** to avoid impacts;
- Maintain the existing groundwater regime through engineering design, restrict the extent of impervious surfaces (e.g., staging) in zones of high infiltration, utilize appropriate backfill material;
- Prohibit access to the extent possible to any natural areas outside of the project footprint to ensure the protection of these areas; this includes temporary access. A sediment control fence should be installed around the perimeter of the work area to provide a visual barrier and **isolate wildlife from the work area**;
- Operate and store materials and equipment in such a manner that prevents any deleterious substance from entering the natural environment (e.g., construction refuelling precautions and sediment fencing at the **base of stockpiles**). Ensure a Spill Management Plan (including spill kit materials, instructions regarding their use, staff education, and emergency contact numbers) is present on-site at all times for implementation in the event of an accidental spill. Ensure fast, accurate reporting of spills and all spills are to be reported to the Spills Action Centre (SAC) at 1 800-268-6060. Have a contingency plan for clean-up;
- Ensure that machinery arrives on site in a clean condition and is maintained free of fluid leaks, invasive species and noxious weeds. Implement **disinfection techniques in concert with fisheries requirements**;
- Changes in vegetative composition as a result of loss of topsoil and subsoil or mixing can be mitigated by **stripping and stockpiling of topsoil separate from the subsoil and replacing soils in preconstruction horizons**;
- When seeding/restoring for Erosion and Sediment Control Plan purposes, use annuals which later die out and ensure only locally native species are used; and
- Identify local regulatory authorities and have contact information available on-site. Local regulatory authorities are to include the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, the Niagara Region, local area municipalities, and local emergency service providers.

**9.4.3 Terrestrial Resources - Long-term Effects**

Specific long-term impacts are described below and summarized with mitigation measures where applicable. Avoidance is often the prescribed mitigation measure where activities will result in a contravention of legislation or a negative impact. However, avoidance is not possible if development proceeds through an approved

Has the proponent conducted any soil testing? The proponent should be aware of the areas in which the soil is contaminated, in order to properly remediate these areas. These contaminated soil should not be used for soil retention or backfill/grading purposes, as this may lead to the contamination of surrounding bodies through dust, erosion, infiltration, and sedimentation. Refer to previous comment on soil tracking.

Consider having contaminated soils brought to a remediation/ rehabilitation facility.

Soil is a valuable resource and if there is a way to convert contaminated soils into clean fill that opportunity should be taken, as relocating the contaminated soils to a landfill is not a mitigation measure, or environmental remediation. It is simply moving the problem elsewhere.

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Environmental Assessment and therefore, mitigation measures to reduce negative impacts are provided; however, they may not eliminate or sufficiently reduce long-term negative impacts.


**9.4.3.1 Potential Effects on Species at Risk**

Any species at risk ranked as Threatened or Endangered that may be impacted by any project work requires consideration to avoid contravention of the *Endangered Species Act*. If impacts on species at risk or their habitat cannot be fully avoided, a permit or registration will be required under the *Endangered Species Act*. Based on fieldwork and secondary sources, three species at risk listed as Threatened or Endangered are confirmed in the Study Area: Eastern Flowering Dogwood, White Wood Aster, and Round-leaved Greenbrier. It is also noted that species at risk bats are considered present. Two other Endangered species at risk were screened as High probability of occurrence, **American Chestnut** and **Butternut**.

**9.4.3.2 Mitigation Measures**

Species-specific mitigation measures for these Endangered and Threatened species are as follows:

- **American Chestnut (Endangered; High probability of occurrence)** – Suitable habitat could occur in the Study Area and Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks noted in Information Gathering Form responses that the corner of Merritt Road and Rice Road has records for this species. It is thought that individuals occur along the western edge of the Study Area in the Kunda Park Forest Regional Area of Natural and Scientific Interest. The Natural Areas Inventory (2006–2009) Volume 1 also documents this species from Brady et al., 1980 with no locations and American Chestnut is also noted in the woodlot between Highway 406 and Grisdale Road based on secondary sources. A thorough tree inventory of the project footprint and 5-10m beyond (as applicable) is required to confirm presence. Detailed Design to avoid damage and destruction of individuals found and the General Habitat (i.e., ELC polygon) to avoid contravention of the *Endangered Species Act*. If avoidance is not feasible, permitting and consultation with Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will be required.
- **Butternut (Endangered; High probability of occurrence)** – Suitable habitat could occur in the Study Area and Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks noted in Information Gathering Form responses that the corner of Merritt Road and Rice Road has records for this species. It is thought that individuals occur along the western edge of the Study Area in the Kunda Park Forest Regional Area of Natural and Scientific Interest. The Natural Areas Inventory (2006–2009) Volume 1 also documents this species from Brady et al., 1980. Butternut was found in Area C of the Port Robinson Subwatershed Study. A thorough tree inventory of the footprint and 5-10m beyond (as applicable) is required to confirm presence. If Butternut is found during tree inventories, the first step is to have a Butternut Health Expert categorize tree health during the leaf-on period (May-August for this species). All Butternut must be assessed to inform permitting/registration/exemption requirements depending on an individual's health. Butternut trees are divided into three categories:

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 9:58:13 PM Status: <None>

Please explain why these species are only being mentioned now, and not earlier in the text.

Both species are potentially culturally important to Six Nations.

Consider contacting Kayanase to conduct seed collection and plant rescue for SAR plant species.

Please also refer to these species recovery strategies for BMPs to avoid impacting these species:


**Butternut:**

[https://www.registrelp-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual\\_sara/files/plans/rs\\_butternut\\_0910\\_e.pdf](https://www.registrelp-sararegistry.gc.ca/virtual_sara/files/plans/rs_butternut_0910_e.pdf)

**American Chestnut:**

[https://files.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/species-at-risk/stdprod\\_075550.pdf](https://files.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/species-at-risk/stdprod_075550.pdf)

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/recovery-strategies/american-chestnut-2019.html>

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:03:16 PM Status: <None>


This 5-10m beyond the project footprint does not include the tree protection zone.

If a Butternut or American Chestnut is located 15m out of the project footprint, the tree protection zone would be within the project footprint. Would this inventory exclude them from potential impact assessments or proper protection protocols?

"To protect the tree's current and future rooting area, no change should occur to the site (e.g. fill, compaction or excavation) within 25 metres of the tree. Landowners should obtain expert advice to avoid contravention of the ESA (Forest Gene Conservation Association, 2013)." The same would apply for the American Chestnut.

Please inventory the project footprint plus 25-30m beyond, in order to account for the tree protection zone area.

**Resource:**

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 3:40:31 PM Status: <None>

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Environmental Assessment and therefore, mitigation measures to reduce negative impacts are provided; however, they may not eliminate or sufficiently reduce long-term negative impacts.

**9.4.3.1 Potential Effects on Species at Risk**

Any species at risk ranked as Threatened or Endangered that may be impacted by any project work requires consideration to avoid contravention of the *Endangered Species Act*. If impacts on species at risk or their habitat cannot be fully avoided, a permit or registration will be required under the *Endangered Species Act*. Based on fieldwork and secondary sources, three species at risk listed as Threatened or Endangered are confirmed in the Study Area: Eastern Flowering Dogwood, White Wood Aster, and Round-leaved Greenbrier. It is also noted that species at risk bats are considered present. Two other Endangered species at risk were screened as High probability of occurrence: **American Chestnut and Butternut**.

**9.4.3.2 Mitigation Measures**

Species-specific mitigation measures for these Endangered and Threatened species are as follows:

- **American Chestnut (Endangered; High probability of occurrence)** – Suitable habitat could occur in the Study Area and Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks noted in Information Gathering Form responses that the corner of Merritt Road and Rice Road has records for this species. It is thought that individuals occur along the western edge of the Study Area in the Kunda Park Forest Regional Area of Natural and Scientific Interest. The Natural Areas Inventory (2006–2009) Volume 1 also documents this species from Brady et al., 1980 with no locations and American Chestnut is also noted in the woodlot between Highway 406 and Grisdale Road based on secondary sources. A thorough tree inventory of the project footprint and 5-10m beyond (as applicable) is required to confirm presence. Detailed Design to avoid damage and destruction of individuals found and the General Habitat (i.e., ELC polygon) to avoid contravention of the *Endangered Species Act*. If avoidance is not feasible, permitting and consultation with Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will be required.
- **Butternut (Endangered; High probability of occurrence)** – Suitable habitat could occur in the Study Area and Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks noted in Information Gathering Form responses that the corner of Merritt Road and Rice Road has records for this species. It is thought that individuals occur along the western edge of the Study Area in the Kunda Park Forest Regional Area of Natural and Scientific Interest. The Natural Areas Inventory (2006–2009) Volume 1 also documents this species from Brady et al., 1980. Butternut was found in Area C of the Port Robinson Subwatershed Study. A thorough tree inventory of the footprint and 5-10m beyond (as applicable) is required to confirm presence. If Butternut is found during tree inventories, the first step is to have a Butternut Health Expert categorize tree health during the leaf-on period (May-August for this species). All Butternut must be assessed to inform permitting/registration/exemption requirements depending on an individual's health. Butternut trees are divided into three categories:

SNWSO does not believe that the mitigation measures listed are very comprehensive. They are rather generalized, and only list ministry definitions of habitat. The proponent makes no statements or dedications to meeting buffer distances for species habitats, nor does the proponent offer any habitat accommodation or compensation plans (nesting, replanting, seed collections, etc).

In previous comments SNWSO has given links to recovery strategies, BMPs, and other habitat compensation or accommodation ideas. Please read these documents to create comprehensive mitigation measures.


SNWSO encourages the proponent to list concrete examples, and clearly state their intentions when it comes to mitigating impacts for SAR species. Please dive deeper into what specific measures will be taken rather than stating "to avoid contravention of the ESA."

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- Category 1: the tree is in the advanced stages of disease as a result of Butternut Canker
- Category 2: the tree does not have Butternut Canker, or the disease is not in advanced stages
- Category 3: the tree could be useful in determining how to prevent or resist Butternut Canker
- A permit is not required, if the activity can be registered and the proponent follows the conditions of the conditional exemption.
- **Eastern Flowering Dogwood (Endangered; Confirmed)** – An individual was found along Merritt Road at the edge of the woodlot to the west of the Merritt Meadows subdivision. Additionally, Natural Heritage Information Centre records in several grid squares occur and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks noted in Information Gathering Form responses that the corner of Merritt and Rice Road has records for this species. The Natural Areas Inventory (2006–2009) Volume 1 also documents this species from Brady et al., 1980. The Eastern Flowering Dogwood was found in the woodlot between Highway 406 and Grisdale Road based on secondary sources. A thorough tree inventory of the footprint and 5-10m beyond (as applicable) is required to confirm presence. Detailed Design to avoid damage and destruction of the known individual and the Regulated Habitat to avoid contravention of the *Endangered Species Act*. If avoidance is not feasible, permitting and consultation with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks are required. Regulated Habitat is defined in O. Reg. 832/21 as the area within 20 m of the stem and the vegetation type (i.e., ELC vegetation type).
- **White Wood Aster (Threatened; Confirmed)** – Individuals and colonies have been found along the length of the project. Additionally, NHIC records in several grid squares occur and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks notes in Information Gathering Form responses that the corner of Merritt and Rice Road has records for this species. The Natural Areas Inventory (2006–2009) Volume 1 also documents this species from Brady et al., 1980. The Eastern Flowering Dogwood was found in the woodlot between Highway 406 and Grisdale Road based on secondary sources. Detailed Design to avoid damage and destruction of the known individuals/colonies and the General Habitat to avoid contravention of the *Endangered Species Act*. If avoidance is not feasible, permitting and consultation with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks are required. For the purposes of this document, General Habitat is considered as the extent of biophysical attributes up to 80 m (radial distance) around existing mapped observations of the White Wood Aster. In addition, in cases where the suitable habitat extends for less than 50 m around a White Wood Aster, a critical function zone capturing an area within a radial distance of 50 m is also included as habitat.
- **Round-leaved Greenbrier (Threatened; Confirmed)** – A colony was found north of Section 3. Detailed Design to avoid damage and destruction of the known individuals/colonies and the General Habitat to avoid contravention of the *Endangered Species Act*. If avoidance is not feasible, permitting and consultation with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks are required. For the purposes of this document, General Habitat is considered as wooded area occupied


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Again, please contact Kayanase to conduct seed collection and plant rescue, well before construction within the area begins.

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 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:04:25 PM Status: <None>

Please clarify. Does this mean that the area within 20m of the ELC community boundary, that contains Eastern flowering Dogwood, will also be protected in addition to 20m around the stem ?

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Where was the White Wood Aster found?



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by Round-leaved Greenbrier, including all contiguous wooded habitat around Round-leaved Greenbrier plants.

- **Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, Tricolored Bat (Endangered; High/Confirmed)** – In the absence of surveys, this species is considered to be present/utilizing wooded habitat as **summer roosting** in all wooded ecosites in the Study Area. Additionally, within 50 km at least one hibernaculum and/or swarming site occurs (Humphrey & Fotherby, 2019). Detailed Design to avoid damage and destruction of individuals (i.e., no vegetation removal from April 1 to September 30) and the General Habitat to avoid contravention of the *Endangered Species Act*. If avoidance is not feasible, permitting and consultation with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks are required. For the purposes of this document, hibernacula, swarming sites, and maternity sites are considered General Habitat. In addition, the habitat for hibernacula and swarming sites include areas of associated foraging and roosting resources, and the maternity habitat for each species includes the maternity roost site and areas of associated foraging resources.

**9.4.3.3 Potential Effects on Significant Wildlife Habitat**

Development in Significant Wildlife Habitat is prohibited unless it can be demonstrated that development will have no negative impact on features and functions. Impacts on Significant Wildlife Habitat as a result of the proposed road extension and widening will be the removal of areas of vegetation communities and habitats which contribute to confirmed Significant Wildlife Habitat. **One confirmed Significant Wildlife Habitat type, Deer Winter Congregation Areas – Confirmed, must be addressed in consultation with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and is not discussed here.** Impacts and removal to all of the forest and swamp complexes on site will result in impacts to three types of Confirmed Significant Wildlife Habitat: *Amphibian Breeding Habitat: Woodland, Amphibian Breeding Habitat: Wetland, and Amphibian Movement Corridors.*

As most amphibians require a source of water to reproduce the impacts on *Amphibian Breeding Habitat: Woodland* and *Wetland Significant Wildlife Habitat* are similar. For an aquatic environment to function as a breeding pond it requires unpolluted water (permanent or temporary), emergent and submergent vegetation, shoreline structures (e.g., woody debris), and surrounding habitat to provide a closed canopy and moist understory (terrestrial habitat). Therefore, a development which results in the draining or filling of small woodland ponds will destroy the function of the pond and the surrounding land for amphibians. The loss of the breeding pond will affect the population dynamics of essentially all amphibian populations in the vicinity of the development (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2014). Development on adjacent land can significantly impact breeding pond functions if it alters ground or surface water quality or quantity, and adjacent development can have a very high impact if it separates the breeding habitat from the summer or winter habitat (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2014).

In addition to direct habitat destruction, if a road is routed through amphibian breeding habitat, roads introduce salt, sediments, gasoline and oil, etc. in road surface runoff that may affect nearby breeding ponds owing to the sensitivity that amphibians show to aquatic toxicants. Likewise, sedimentation may reduce water levels of wetland areas, and may also change the composition of pond substrates. Moreover, as adults move to

**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:04:54 PM Status: <None>

Please clarify. Does this suggest that all the connected woodlot areas, where Greenbrier is found, should be considered habitat and thus protected? What area of woodlot will be protected? The entirety of that woodlot or just a certain radius surrounding the plant?

SNWSO would prefer that the entire woodlot is protected, as aside from providing habitat for the Greenbrier, the woodlot provides habitat for many species of vegetation and wildlife. All non-human beings should be protected, as the wildlife, vegetation, and the woodlot landscape all serve a purpose on Mother Earth.

**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:05:48 PM Status: <None>

Does this include the other forms of habitat- maternity roosting, hibernacula, swarming, foraging etc?

How will impacts to SAR bats (and other bats) be avoided?  
What accommodation measures will be provided for bats?

Please refer to previous comments regarding building bat boxes, and the associated recovery strategies. Please note that any bat boxes or accommodation measures should be installed prior to the beginning of construction, and should be monitored for their use. Otherwise, if the provided habitats are not being used, they cannot be considered appropriate mitigation/accommodation.

SNWSO encourages the proponent to perform targeted surveys to gain a better understanding of what areas within the study area are likely being colonized, in order to avoid impacting specific nesting/roosting locations.

**A** Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:06:59 PM Status: <None>

Considering the cultural and sustenance significance of deer to SN. SNWSO encourages the proponent to discuss the specific impacts the roadworks will have to the winter congregation area, and list specific mitigation measures that will be taken. Please also expand on the habitats present for Wild Turkey. There is high potential to infringe on Indigenous treaty rights, and this issue should be addressed, and discussed with SN for adequate consultation to take place. Six Nations of the Grand River have a right to fish, hunt, and harvest within the

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by Round-leaved Greenbrier, including all contiguous wooded habitat around Round-leaved Greenbrier plants.

- **Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, Tricolored Bat (Endangered; High/Confirmed)** – In the absence of surveys, this species is considered to be present/utilizing wooded habitat as summer roosting in all wooded ecosites in the Study Area. Additionally, within 50 km at least one hibernaculum and/or swarming site occurs (Humphrey & Fotherby, 2019). Detailed Design to avoid damage and destruction of individuals (i.e., no vegetation removal from April 1 to September 30) and the General Habitat to avoid contravention of the *Endangered Species Act*. If avoidance is not feasible, permitting and consultation with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks are required. For the purposes of this document, hibernacula, swarming sites, and maternity sites are considered General Habitat. In addition, the habitat for hibernacula and swarming sites include areas of associated foraging and roosting resources, and the maternity habitat for each species includes the maternity roost site and areas of associated foraging resources.

**9.4.3.3 Potential Effects on Significant Wildlife Habitat**

Development in Significant Wildlife Habitat is prohibited unless it can be demonstrated that development will have no negative impact on features and functions. Impacts on Significant Wildlife Habitat as a result of the proposed road extension and widening will be the removal of areas of vegetation communities and habitats which contribute to confirmed Significant Wildlife Habitat. One confirmed Significant Wildlife Habitat type, *Deer Winter Congregation Areas – Confirmed*, must be addressed in consultation with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and is not discussed here. Impacts and removal to all of the forest and swamp complexes on site will result in impacts to three types of Confirmed Significant Wildlife Habitat: *Amphibian Breeding Habitat: Woodland*, *Amphibian Breeding Habitat: Wetland*, and *Amphibian Movement Corridors*.

As most amphibians require a source of water to reproduce the impacts on *Amphibian Breeding Habitat: Woodland* and *Wetland Significant Wildlife Habitat* are similar. For an aquatic environment to function as a breeding pond it requires unpolluted water (permanent or temporary), emergent and submergent vegetation, shoreline structures (e.g., woody debris), and surrounding habitat to provide a closed canopy and moist understory (terrestrial habitat). Therefore, a development which results in the draining or filling of small woodland ponds will destroy the function of the pond and the surrounding land for amphibians. The loss of the breeding pond will affect the population dynamics of essentially all amphibian populations in the vicinity of the development (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2014). Development on adjacent land can significantly impact breeding pond functions if it alters ground or surface water quality or quantity, and adjacent development can have a very high impact if it separates the breeding habitat from the summer or winter habitat (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2014).

In addition to direct habitat destruction, if a road is routed through amphibian breeding habitat, roads introduce salt, sediments, gasoline and oil, etc. in road surface runoff that may affect nearby breeding ponds owing to the sensitivity that amphibians show to aquatic toxicants. Likewise, sedimentation may reduce water levels of wetland areas, and may also change the composition of pond substrates. Moreover, as adults move to



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and from breeding ponds or juveniles disperse from ponds, large numbers are often killed by vehicles. Traffic noise from major roads may interfere with amphibian breeding choruses.

**9.4.3.4 Mitigation Measures**

The best mitigation option is to avoid developing in the habitat. Other alternatives include minimizing the amount of habitat affected or locating the road where wetlands are not on both sides. As these options are not possible based on the Transportation Master Plan and traffic assessment, it will be necessary to install passages and fencing to direct amphibian movement underneath roads. Passages must be designed to allow the maximum number of amphibians to use them. Light and moisture are important criteria for amphibian use of passages. The diameter of a culvert must increase with increasing length, or open grates passages are required. Open grate culverts also allow for increased moisture, however, the contaminant load must be considered. There should be enough moisture in the culvert during wet weather to result in a flow of water through the culvert, but without excessive ponding, flooding, or high water velocities (unless 'dry ledges' are provided). There should be no drainage patterns perpendicular to either mouth of the culvert that might direct amphibians away from the culvert. It is important that there is substrate in the culvert, and 15 cm of native soil should be placed in it to facilitate amphibian passage, or the culvert should be open-bottomed. The best designs incorporate a perpendicular wall or funnel fence at each end of the culvert that runs parallel to the road, or out from it on an angle. This needs to be designed such that it prevents amphibians from accessing the road surface and directs them into the culvert (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2014). Sufficient culverts should be installed to allow for the normal passage of water to the wetlands but examples of passages could be a culvert >0.5 m in diameter lined with soil or gravel, or oversize box culverts installed in shallower areas that support emergent vegetation, or a raised road may be preferable. All culverts/passages must be paired with suitable funnel fencing (e.g., 0.6-0.9 m high funnel fencing with additional buried section and top-lip).

Additionally, runoff from the road should not be allowed to run directly into the wetlands. Stormwater detention areas should be installed to intercept water and allow it to settle prior to discharge to the wetland. For roads within or immediately adjacent to the wetland, thought should be given to installing splash guards along the edge of the road. These are barriers that attach to the railings and help reduce salt spray and the introduction of other contaminants. If these types of barriers are planned, there should be adequate room under the road to allow wildlife movement from one side of the wetland to the other.

The detailed design phase of the Project must consider the passages of amphibians to maintain the form and function of *Amphibian Breeding Habitat: Woodland*, *Amphibian Breeding Habitat: Wetland*, and *Amphibian Movement Corridor Significant Wildlife Habitat*. If road design can incorporate appropriate passages and fencing to mitigate the loss of habitat and direct mortality of individuals, the overall negative impact may be reduced or avoided.

It was also found that Eastern Wood-Pewee is a probable breeder in the Study Area, and Wood Thrush is a possible breeder and is considered under Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species Significant Wildlife Habitat. Eastern Wood-Pewee breeding

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Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 3:53:50 PM Status: <None>

Good!

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Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 3:55:47 PM Status: <None>

Please refer to previous comments for resources on BMPs when designing culverts as wildlife passages.

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Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 4:00:06 PM Status: <None>


Amphibian and wildlife rescue/salvage and relocation should also occur (via qualified ecologist) prior to construction in order to reduce the direct mortality of individuals during construction.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:07:41 PM Status: <None>

Good!


Please note that SNWSO encourages a 10:1 tree replacement ratio. As this 10:1 tree replacement can help to ensure that habitat will regenerate and become usable again.

Consider installing nesting boxes to accommodate for the loss of habitat, and act as a interim solution while trees grow. Again, any nesting boxes or accommodation measures should be installed prior to the beginning of construction, and should be monitored for their use. Otherwise, if the provided habitats are not being used, they cannot be considered appropriate mitigation/accommodation.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:09:11 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO believes the road works will directly result in the reduction of interior forest as a result of the inward movement of the edge, which will result in the impacts listed here.

These roadworks will also result in the direct loss of habitat (especially for interior forest bird species), reduce the potential for carbon sequestration (carbon will also be released as a result of tree removal), loss of shading/cooling, and the loss of soil stability and water filtration. The loss of these invaluable ecosystem services will have cumulative impacts to the surrounding area.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:11:03 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO agrees that this analysis should occur, as this will contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the study area and the impacts that will occur. However, please explain how this information will be used to create appropriate mitigation measures.

This commitment to further analysis is not a mitigation measure.

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occurs in mature to intermediate-aged forests with an open understory, often associated with clearings and edges (COSEWIC, 2012). Wood Thrush breeds in mature or second-growth deciduous and mixed wood forests (COSSARO, 2013). Therefore, the forest complexes are considered under Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species Significant Wildlife Habitat. The footprint of the road, along with associated shoulders, banks, and ditches, will result in habitat loss. Indirect loss of habitat may occur through changes in hydrology, the introduction of non-native plant species, the introduction of sediments and other contaminants, and salt spray and runoff. As sediments and changes in hydrology are potential problems, surface water runoff from the road should be directed to stormwater management ponds prior to being discharged to the adjacent forested areas. Additionally, natural flow to the significant habitat should be maintained with sufficient culverts so that the road does not form a barrier to groundwater or surface water flow. All areas must be revegetated and kept free of invasive species until native regeneration occurs. Lastly, the loss of habitat due to the road footprint must be compensated along other forest edges.

The detailed design phase of the Project must include a restoration and compensation plan to offset the negative impact of Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species Significant Wildlife Habitat loss.

**9.4.3.5 Effects on Woodlots (Fragmentation)**

Fragmentation is a severe threat to the survival of many wildlife species, particularly area-sensitive species and/or those with large home ranges (OMNR 2010). Fragmentation leads to habitat degradation and modification, edge effects, overcrowding, and invasion by non-native species. Increased isolation of species, compounded with other stresses, puts them at greater risk of disappearing from a region (OMNR 2010). There is a negative impact to consider when creating a road through a natural feature when a road does not currently exist, as is the proposal for Segment 1. Additionally, the widening of roadways in other Segments will further increase the distance and barrier between retained natural areas and features.

The creation and widening of Merritt Road will directly result in woodland cutting and vegetation removal and indirectly result in the reduction of interior forest habitat due to the loss of forest edge, the potential for increased access because of road creation, human disturbance, the introduction of predators such as cats, invasion by non-native species, and the effects of noise on wildlife. Additionally, the Project is located in an area identified in the Regional Official Plan as a linkage which represents ecological connectivity between natural features and areas.

**9.4.3.6 Mitigation Measures**

The leading mitigation measure is to reduce the footprint of Segment 1, through the unopened road allowance, to the extent possible. Mitigation of fragmenting wildlife habitat also includes maintaining connectivity and managing adjacent areas to improve habitat availability (e.g., invasive species management, plantings, and restoration programs). It is recommended that once a grading plan and detailed design are understood, an analysis of the current interior forest (i.e., the size of the interior forest as a 200m buffer from the current woodland edge) and the proposed interior forest occur.

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**9.4.3.7 Potential Effects on Wildlife Movement**

Wildlife movement through the area is unknown. It is feasible that wildlife choose to move through across the roadways.

**9.4.3.8 Mitigation Measures**

Mitigation includes baseline studies to identify wildlife use in the area (all four Segments). If it is found that wildlife moves through the area, to maintain wildlife connectivity, the implementation of wildlife passages would be required. As the proposed location of the road through Segment 1 will not avoid intersecting the most likely wildlife migration routes, mitigation will include funnelling wildlife through passages. As passages will likely align with drainage structures, the structures should be built with roadside wings, and be sized accordingly. Additionally, to accommodate wildlife passage, the diameters of passages should extend beyond watercourse shorelines to provide dry shelves. Lastly, appropriate funnel/barrier fencing or vertical walls to direct wildlife under the road that extends beyond suitable habitat is required. A long-term maintenance plan for passages and fencing is also required to maintain efficacy.

**9.4.3.9 Effects on Trees and Vegetation (Removal)**


The removal of trees and vegetation could result in the following negative impacts:

- loss of shade, possibly resulting in increased water temperatures,
- drying up of refugia due to increased evaporation,
- reduced bank stability and ability to trap sediment from upland areas; increased erosion, sedimentation and
- turbidity, decrease cover and diversity of vegetation leading to a decrease in biodiversity and loss of natural linkages and animal movement corridors,
- direct loss of habitat (e.g., winter cover, vernal pools, nesting trees, important food sources),
- reduction in habitat (e.g., woodland habitat for area-sensitive birds) below a critical level,
- habitat fragmentation,
- loss of rare plant species and SAR.

**9.4.3.10 Mitigation Measures**


Mitigation for the loss of trees and vegetation removed to accommodate the extension and widening includes:

- identify sensitive species before beginning the work with a tree inventory; design grading to avoid disturbing sensitive species,
- develop a tree conservation plan to encourage the retention of trees where possible,
- maintain as much riparian vegetation as possible and restore vegetative buffers,
- reduce slopes to prevent erosion issues
- plant appropriate native species (of local stock if possible and suited to the local hydrology and soils of the area they are planted) and replace trees and shrubs at a compensation ratio determined by regulators,


 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:12:28 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO believes that the proponent should assume that wildlife are already moving through the area and install wildlife passages.

These studies should be used to determine where wildlife are most often crossing through the existing landscape. Then use that information as a guide to determine where the funneling of wildlife to passages would be most effective/useful to prevent road mortality, and maintain landscape connectivity.


 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 4:22:34 PM Status: <None>

Great! This will help to avoid any mortality from high water levels.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 4:24:11 PM Status: <None>

Maintenance and monitoring plans should be required.

Consider using trail cameras to monitor the use of the passages and to help identify if there is room for improvements. Monitoring these passages will help contribute to the long-term research and success of various wildlife passage designs.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 4:36:32 PM Status: <None>

Please go above and beyond what regulation/regulators state. Please use the SNWSO recommend 10:1 tree replacement ratio.

Regulation is often short sighted and does not consider the true loss that removing a single mature tree will have on the environment.

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- 2014 Regional OP Policy 7.C.1.3 states that the Region shall practice good stewardship by:
  - Managing Regionally owned lands within or adjacent to the Core Natural Heritage System to maintain, restore or enhance the System's natural features and ecological functions;
  - Maintaining a program of tree planting and naturalization on Regional properties and roads. Where trees must be removed **at least two trees shall be planted for every tree removed, normally using native species from seed sources climatically similar to Niagara.**
- develop and implement an erosion and sediment control plan before removing vegetation,
- identify and avoid or protect critical components of wildlife habitat (e.g., winter cover, vernal pools, grasslands that support indicator species, hibernation sites, migration staging areas, nesting trees), and
- **leave a buffer around significant features and habitats of significant species.**

**9.4.3.11 Effects on Wetland Form and Function**


The hydrology work to inform the Wetland Water Balance Risk Evaluation refined the location of wetland pockets that form the forest/swamp mosaic and their storage areas. Some of these storage areas are on-line, with watercourses explored in the fish habitat assessment. The realignment of channels may not only cause negative impacts on the aquatic communities (e.g., barriers to fish movements, sediment deposition, separation of streams from floodplains) they may also change the composition of wetland communities. The increase in impervious surfaces will increase surface runoff and stream peak flows and reduce infiltration and change baseflows and upwelling.

Drainage of wetland areas can cause mortality or stress to animals and possible changes in species composition. During Environmental Impact Study's Terms of Reference approval, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority required consideration of ecohydrology to inform existing conditions that should be maintained during construction activities and post-development. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority noted **that post-construction monitoring may be an expectation** of the Authority staff to demonstrate no negative effects on the hydrology and ecohydrology of the area potentially impacted by the proposed works. The results of the Wetland Water Balance Risk Evaluation prescribed monitoring, an emphasis on understanding groundwater interaction, and a mitigation plan to maintain water balance with an interim mitigation plan.

**9.4.3.12 Mitigation Measures**

Mitigation for the loss of wetland form and function to accommodate the extension and widening includes (may not apply to all road Segments):


- schedule grading to avoid times of high runoff volumes (spring and fall),
- minimize changes in land contours and natural drainage; maintain streams (permanent and intermittent) and timing and quantity of flows,
- ensure grades are matched at the limit of the natural feature or area or the limit of any buffer area,

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:15:28 PM Status: <None>


2 saplings cannot make up for all the ecological services that a mature tree provided (carbon sequestration, water filtration and storage, erosion prevention, habitat, shading/cooling, the aesthetics etc). It will take decades for newly planted trees to compensate for the loss of a single mature tree.

Many tree replacement ratios are dependent on the diameter at breast height (DBH) of the removed trees. SNWSO discourages this practice as even young trees still serve an ecological function, and should be compensated at the 10:1 ratio, regardless of DBH. Even standing snags should be replaced at a 1:1 replacement ratio because they also provide ecological services (previously discussed).


Ideally the 10:1 tree replacements will be planted on site, however SNWSO understands that there may not be enough area on site for the saplings to be planted according to BMPs/spacing requirements. If this is the case, we encourage the proponent to find other locations that may be willing to have trees planted, (i.e municipal parks, private landowners, conservation areas, schools etc) the proponent may need to be creative, but there is no ecological risk to planting more trees.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 4:51:35 PM Status: <None>

Refer to the "stabilize as you go" protocol discussed in comments above.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 4:52:15 PM Status: <None>

Please clarify what buffer size will be allotted. Refer to previous comments.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:18:09 PM Status: <None>

SNWSO agrees that post-construction monitoring is required. Monitoring should occur for all compensation/mitigation measures, not just the water form and function alterations.

Monitoring will help to ensure that mitigation measures are functioning as intended or are successful (vegetation plantings, wildlife passages, nesting/roosting boxes, erosion control measures, water quality improvements, water management etc). Without monitoring these

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- 2014 Regional OP Policy 7.C.1.3 states that the Region shall practice good stewardship by:
  - Managing Regionally owned lands within or adjacent to the Core Natural Heritage System to maintain, restore or enhance the System's natural features and ecological functions;
  - Maintaining a program of tree planting and naturalization on Regional properties and roads. Where trees must be removed **at least two trees shall be planted for every tree removed, normally using native species from seed sources climatically similar to Niagara.**
- develop and implement an erosion and sediment control plan before removing vegetation,
- identify and avoid or protect critical components of wildlife habitat (e.g., winter cover, vernal pools, grasslands that support indicator species, hibernation sites, migration staging areas, nesting trees), and
- **leave a buffer around significant features and habitats of significant species.**

**9.4.3.11 Effects on Wetland Form and Function**

The hydrology work to inform the Wetland Water Balance Risk Evaluation refined the location of wetland pockets that form the forest/swamp mosaic and their storage areas. Some of these storage areas are on-line, with watercourses explored in the fish habitat assessment. The realignment of channels may not only cause negative impacts on the aquatic communities (e.g., barriers to fish movements, sediment deposition, separation of streams from floodplains) they may also change the composition of wetland communities. The increase in impervious surfaces will increase surface runoff and stream peak flows and reduce infiltration and change baseflows and upwelling.

Drainage of wetland areas can cause mortality or stress to animals and possible changes in species composition. During Environmental Impact Study's Terms of Reference approval, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority required consideration of ecohydrology to inform existing conditions that should be maintained during construction activities and post-development. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority noted **that post-construction monitoring may be an expectation** of the Authority staff to demonstrate no negative effects on the hydrology and ecohydrology of the area potentially impacted by the proposed works. The results of the Wetland Water Balance Risk Evaluation prescribed monitoring, an emphasis on understanding groundwater interaction, and a mitigation plan to maintain water balance with an interim mitigation plan.

**9.4.3.12 Mitigation Measures**

Mitigation for the loss of wetland form and function to accommodate the extension and widening includes (may not apply to all road Segments):


- schedule grading to avoid times of high runoff volumes (spring and fall),
- minimize changes in land contours and natural drainage; maintain streams (permanent and intermittent) and timing and quantity of flows,
- ensure grades are matched at the limit of the natural feature or area or the limit of any buffer area,

mitigation measures may be unsuccessful and negative environmental impacts could go unnoticed. Monitoring will ensure that the mitigation measures are appropriate, and will allow for a quick response in order to make corrections/modifications.


How long will the post-construction monitoring occur for?

SNWSO recommends monitoring occur for a bare minimum of 5 years, and should occur several times a season in the first 1-2 years. As this will ensure the long-term success of efforts.




 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 5:14:49 PM Status: <None>


Natural sediments would be preferred as this may help to encourage the use of culverts as a wildlife passage, and assist in the establishment of aquatic vegetation.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 5:15:45 PM Status: <None>

Please use native grasses and vegetation for the bioswales rather than non-native species.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:19:49 PM Status: <None>

Please clarify how surface water contribution is a compensation measure. It is probable that there will already be an influx of surface water contributions due to the increase of impermeable surfaces (runoff), which may act as a stressor rather than compensation.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 5:19:28 PM Status: <None>

Perfect!


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- maintain existing stream channel if possible, or realign using natural channel design (accompanied by replanting plan using native vegetation),
- use structures (i.e., culverts) to span watercourses,
- minimize the width of the ROW,
- develop and implement an erosion and sediment control plan,
- revegetate as soon as possible,
- install adequate culverts and gravel base to maintain the flow of surface water and shallow groundwater,
- use vegetated swales to capture pollutants,
- minimize area of paved surfaces,
- design roads without curbs, gutters and sidewalks to promote infiltration,
- promote infiltration galleries and other infiltration devices,
- maintain or provide vegetative buffers, and
- control quantity and quality of stormwater using best management practices.

Additionally, the removal of wetland areas should be compensated for, with the objective of a net gain in habitat function with the local watershed. Compensation lands and requirements should be the responsibility of the Region to obtain and enforce. Feature compensation considerations include but are not limited to:

- Topography and drainage of the existing and proposed feature,
- Community type (based on ELC),
- Wildlife habitat types and structures to be replicated or added as enhancements,
- Soil types, structure, and quality of the existing and proposed feature composition and processes,
- Surface water contributions and hydroperiod, and
- Groundwater processes and interactions.

The area for wetland compensation should be close to the current project as possible but also protected from future development. Wetland compensation may also take the form of an Enhancement Plan of existing wetlands in the Study Area. The new Niagara Regional Official Plan considers supporting features and enhancement areas which are intended to consist of natural self-sustaining vegetation that increase the ecological resilience and function of individual key natural heritage features, key hydrological features and/or natural features and areas. It is recommended that these areas be considered for compensation and restoration plantings. Enhancement areas are identified where; the area is comprised of natural vegetation communities (as determined according to Ecological Land Classification); or the area is currently under agricultural production; or the area does not contain a permanent form of development (i.e., house, road, or related infrastructure). Enhancement areas inside of settlement areas are to be identified as follows; in 'bays and inlets' along the edge of features - < 60 m wide; interior gaps in features - < 0.5 ha; gaps between features - < 60 m.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 5:33:22 PM Status: <None>

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The primary option to mitigate the hydrologic impacts of the proposed design include maintaining the runoff volume to the wetland features, which for the purpose of this study would be controlling the runoff volume at the limits of the road ROW. As summarized in Section 8.11, there are a variety of stormwater management controls that are being proposed as solutions to meet the necessary stormwater management control criteria for the proposed roadway design. These include the combination of stormwater detention within the roadside ditches for quantity control purposes, as well as the recommendation for infiltrating the runoff volume control target for the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile rainfall event as identified by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks through infiltration trenches beneath the roadside ditches.


The implementation of infiltration trenches designed to capture and retain the increased runoff associated with the increased impervious area under frequent events not only helps to satisfy the Niagara Region's erosion control criteria, but also promotes water quality improvements and helps to maintain the local hydrologic cycle. **By implementing these or other infiltrative LID BMPs, this would allow the retention and infiltration of 90% of average annual rainfall,** which for the Niagara Region would equate storms under 28-29 mm. On a long-term basis, the implementation of these LID BMPs would help to mitigate the impacts to the receiving wetland features associated with higher runoff volumes occurring from the road ROW, which will in turn help to reduce the impacts on the operational depth and volume of the Provincially Significant Wetland system.

For the portions of the wetland units which are directly physically impacted by the Segment 1 ROW, the loss of footprints and associated operational volume / storage should be mitigated. As indicated in the EIS (Appendix E), from an ecological perspective the detailed design must include a restoration and compensation plan to offset the negative impacts of the habitat loss. This is also true from a hydrologic / hydraulic perspective, to ensure that the storage available within this Provincially Significant Wetland is maintained to ensure no impacts further downstream, as the Provincially Significant Wetland provides storage / attenuation prior to discharging at Cataract Road. This should be assessed further as part of the detailed design efforts to ensure that the functionality of the wetland is maintained both upstream and downstream of the proposed roadway, and that the key hydrologic connections are maintained through culvert crossings.


In order to inform the future detailed design phase, additional long-term monitoring is recommended within the Study Area. This includes additional surface water monitoring gauges both upstream, downstream as well as within the Provincially Significant Wetland system. The additional monitoring will allow for a better understanding of the local functions of the wetland system. The details of surface water monitoring will need to be confirmed with Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, following completion of the Class EA Study / during detailed design phase. This understanding of wetland functions can help to refine the modelling developed as part of the current study, and help to refine the impact assessment based upon the detailed design of the roadway and further develop mitigation opportunities. Additional monitoring requirements from an ecological / ecohydrology perspective are outlined in the EIS (Appendix E).

It was previously stated that the majority of these wetlands are surface water fed, is it possible that this water retention in the ditches may result in the wetlands drying up?  
How will the proponent ensure that this does not occur?



 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 5:35:59 PM Status: <None>

If contamination of a private well takes place, will the proponent compensate that landowner? Will water quality testing of private wells be conducted prior to construction?

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:20:27 PM Status: <None>

What measures will be taken to avoid contamination of groundwater? Will there be a contingency plan to rectify the situation if contamination does occur?

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**9.6 Groundwater**

A water taking permit, either registration on the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR) or a Permit to Take Water (PTTW) will be required if water taking for construction dewatering purposes is greater than 50,000 litres per day (EASR) or greater than 400,000 litres per day (PTTW). A dewatering assessment shall be completed during detailed design to confirm the need and extent of dewatering and associated permitting requirements. This assessment shall also include an assessment of potential impacts to local groundwater users (e.g., private water supply), the surrounding natural environment and adjacent waterbody feature(s) (e.g., wetlands, watercourses), the potential for contaminated groundwater migration and settlement as a result of dewatering. The dewatering assessment must also provide details regarding the proposed discharge plan and discuss how the dewatering effluent/surface water (i.e., rain) will be managed and treated to meet water quality criteria based on the final discharge location (i.e., ditches).

**9.7 Drinking Water Source Protection**

**9.7.1 Potential Effects**

As noted in Section 4.8, the subject road segments are not located in any of the Intake Protection Zones (IPZs) within the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Area. However, for Segments 1 and 2, residential properties are serviced by wells for potable water. Potential effects of the project on groundwater and surface water sources during construction may be associated with accidental spills and/or leakage of fluids from construction machinery.


**9.7.2 Mitigation Measures**

Best management practices shall be implemented during construction to prevent any fuel lubricants and fluid spills resulting from construction activities and manage any unanticipated occurrences that could result in impacts to groundwater. All spills that could potentially cause damage to the environment will be reported to the Spills Action Centre of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (800-268-6060).

**9.8 Climate Change Considerations**

In 2017, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks issued a guide entitled "Considering Climate Change in the Environmental Assessment Process". This guide sets out Ministry's expectations and supports the province's Climate Change Action Plan by outlining climate change considerations for environmental assessment studies (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, 2017).


The guide notes 'climate consideration' within a project means that consideration has been given to methods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and developing a design that is more resilient to future changes in climate and helps maintain the ecological integrity of the local environment in the face of a changing climate. Specifically, proponents are encouraged to consider mitigation (how the project might mitigate climate change) and adaptation (measures to adapt to climate change or make the project more resilient to the effects of climate change). Considering how a project may contribute to climate change, through its greenhouse gas emissions or its effects on the

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:22:28 PM Status: <None>

There may also be a more long-term increase in GHG emissions resulting from the loss of vegetation. The loss of vegetation will lead to less carbon sequestration, less air filtration, less water filtration etc..  
As when a tree is cut down, much of the stored carbon is released back into the atmosphere.

This project will reduce the vegetation available to sequester carbon and will simultaneously increase GHG emissions, reducing the area's the ability to combat climate change.

Please consider not only the operation of equipment, but also the carbon released as a result of vegetation loss.

 Type: Highlight Author: wsma Subject: Highlight Date: 11/2/2023, 10:24:23 PM Status: <None>

Glad to see that soils will be tested.

Please ensure that diligent soil tracking takes place so that contaminated soils do not end up near sensitive features.

Please consider sending contaminated soils to a rehabilitation facility to be remediated, rather than disposing of it in a landfill. As again, this is doing nothing to improve the overall environment, it is just moving the problem elsewhere.

We as a society should be working towards improving the environment so that future generations have a healthy place to live, use, and enjoy. Action to clean up Mother Earth needs to happen 'here and now,' rather than leaving it for future generations to deal with.

**Niagara Region  
Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for  
Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)**

The project-specific recommendations outlined in Section 8 of this report support many of these policies and involve measures that will aid the Niagara Region in adapting to and mitigating impacts of climate change. For example, the key objective of this Class EA study is to provide capacity improvements and provide a direct connection of Merritt Road, which would provide multi-modal choices for all road users (i.e., pedestrians, cyclists, and auto), and goods movement, and reduce overall congestion in the Study Area. Tree plantings are proposed within the boulevards to provide carbon storage and ditches are being proposed to improve storm water collection and reduce potential flooding impacts on area lands. These are discussed further below.

**9.8.1.3 Effects of the Project on Climate Change**

During the construction of the project, there will be a temporary increase in greenhouse gas emissions as a result of operation of construction machinery and equipment. In order to minimize emission of greenhouse gases during project construction, idling of construction vehicles and equipment shall be minimized. In addition, construction vehicles and equipment shall be in good working order. This will help reduce inefficiencies in the operation of the construction vehicles and equipment.

From a long-term effects point of view, the project was designed to minimize loss of natural landscape to the extent possible. Mitigation measures to reduce further impacts to natural environment are discussed in Section 9.4 of this report. The proposed road design includes boulevard space along all road segments to accommodate tree replacement to provide shade and carbon sequestration. All street trees specifications and species shall be selected in accordance with the Niagara Region's Master Street Tree Planting list.

In addition, the proposed road design includes sidewalks and cycle tracks. These proposed active transportation facilities are anticipated to encourage walking and cycling and may assist in decreasing the use of motor vehicles, which may reduce green house gas emissions.

**9.8.1.4 Effects on the Project from Climate Change**

Well-planned and managed infrastructure is fundamental to attaining the Region's vision for thriving and resilient communities, and key to achieving the growth forecasts of this Plan. Policy 5.2.1.11 of the Niagara Region Official Plan notes that the Region will promote the use of green infrastructure and low impact development by considering green infrastructure in public works. As discussed in Section 8, The proposed design makes use of an existing transportation route and proposes to accommodate all road users (pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles). A Stormwater Management Strategy is proposed that includes ditches, culverts and Low Impact Development to improve storm water collection, reduce potential flooding impacts and address stormwater quality.

**9.9 Soil**

A geotechnical investigation shall be completed during detailed design to understand the sub-surface conditions, recommend pavement design for road reconstruction, foundation design for culverts, slope stability analysis for embankments (if/where required), roadway cut and fill operations, dewatering requirements, and chemical analyses and disposal requirements of excess materials.

**Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Road (Regional Road 37) and Rice Road (Regional Road 54) in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland**

# **APPENDIX**

***N-3***

***Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs  
Council, as represented by the  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute***

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2021 5:00 PM  
**To:** traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; hdi2@bellnet.ca; williams.todde@gmail.com; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; McGill, John; Shams, Anika; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** Notice of Study Commencement-EA for Merritt Road and Rice Road  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_Indig Cover letter NOC\_Haudenosaunee.pdf; IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_Project Summary\_Rev01-14-01-2021.pdf; Merritt-Rice-Notice-of-Study-Commencement-Final.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Tracey General, Office Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter, project summary, and the Notice of Study Commencement for more details.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:  
<https://www.niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37/default.aspx>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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Tracey General  
Office Manager  
Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council  
c/o Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
[hdi2@bellnet.ca](mailto:hdi2@bellnet.ca)

January 14, 2021

**Re: Notice of Study Commencement - Schedule 'C' Municipal Class  
Environmental Assessment for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional  
Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland**

Dear Ms. General,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) has initiated a Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.

The Niagara Region has received direction from the Provincial Crown that the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council may have an interest in the Project. The Niagara Region is committed to involving stakeholders and Indigenous Nations in this Study. Attached is the Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary. Please feel free to share this information within your community as you feel appropriate.

We are interested in understanding any interests or questions that the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council, as represented by the Haudenosaunee Development Institute may have about this Project and if there is a potential for the Project to affect Indigenous and treaty rights. We would also be interested to know if there are any sites of cultural significance to your community within, or adjacent to, the study area. If you would like to meet in person and discuss, please feel free to contact the undersigned. We will contact you by telephone in the near future to determine your interest in a meeting.

Sincerely,

*M. Elmadhoon*

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

*Jeff Suggett*

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

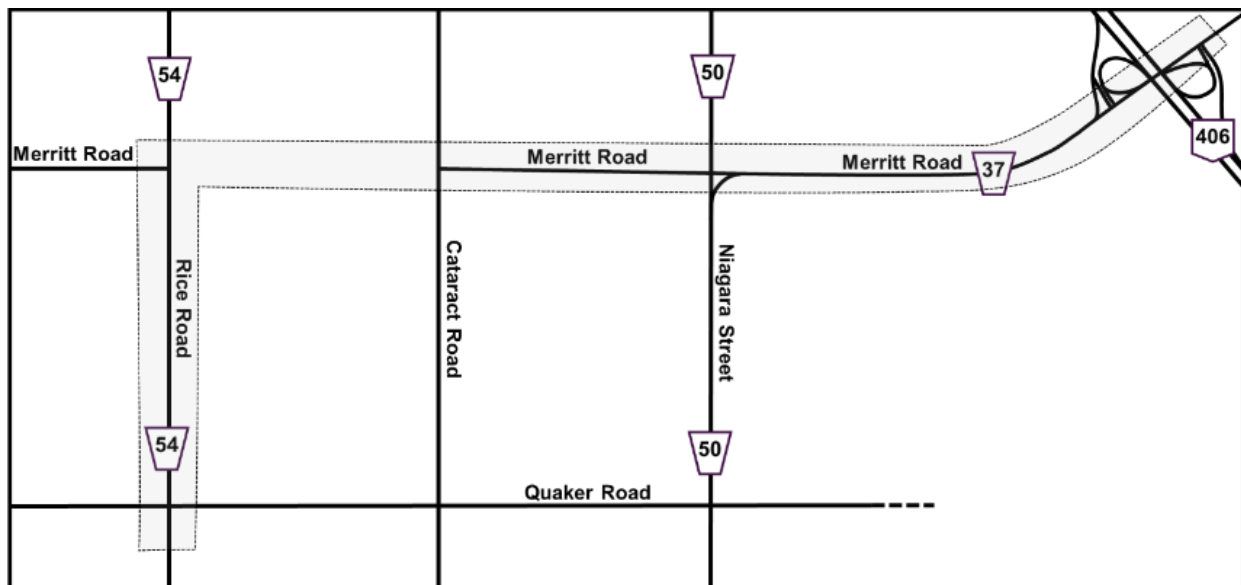
Cc: Leroy Jocko Hill ([jocko@sixnationsns.com](mailto:jocko@sixnationsns.com))  
Todd Williams ([williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com))  
Mary Kelly, Wood ([mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com))  
cl: Notice of Study Commencement; Project Summary

## Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study for Improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland

A Municipal Class EA is a decision-making and planning process that identifies the potential effects of projects, such as road improvements, so that they can be managed prior to implementation.

### Project Description

The Region of Niagara (Niagara Region) has initiated a Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland. The Study aims to reimagine the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users.



The Region's goal is to provide a key transportation link that will allow for direct access between Rice Road and Highway 406, via Merritt Road, with specific consideration given to the environmentally sensitive lands. The study will also include improving future traffic conditions to existing sections of Rice Road and Merritt Road, as a result of the proposed developments in the study area. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities. The Niagara Region has retained Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions (Wood) to undertake the Study.

## **Municipal Class Environmental Assessment**

This Study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The purpose of this Class EA is to:

- Confirm the need for road improvements
- Identify and evaluate potential improvement options
- Through a rigorous assessment, recommend the most feasible infrastructure improvement solution
- Identify the potential effects associated with the recommended solution and identify practical measures to avoid or mitigate potential negative effects

The first step in the study process is to develop an understanding of the current conditions in the study area as well as a forecast of future traffic growth. Once baseline conditions and future traffic levels are known, the Region will develop potential alternatives to meet the future growth demand.

The Class EA planning process helps identify the potential effects of proposed projects. Each proposed alternative is assessed against baseline conditions to determine the potential effects, and where necessary, identify mitigation measures to minimize or avoid those impacts. From these alternatives, the most feasible alternative is identified.

A key component of this study is to consult with regulatory agencies, conservation authorities, stakeholders and Indigenous groups.

## **Baseline Studies**

Baseline studies are prepared to describe the current biological, human and physical environment conditions. The following investigations will be completed as part of this study:

- Biological Environment: Species at Risk, Vegetation, Wildlife, and Wetlands
- Human Environment: Archaeology, Built and Cultural Heritage, Land use and Socio-economics, and Visual aesthetics / landscape design
- Physical Environment: Stormwater, and Soils



## Potential Project Related Effects

Potential study effects will be identified through an evaluation of the alternatives, and for the preferred alternative, mitigation measures to address these potential effects will be developed. This may include effects on:

- Heritage properties and cultural heritage landscapes
- Environmental features including land-based and water-based environments.

## Schedule and Next Steps

- Field Studies: tentatively planned for summer and fall 2021
- Public Information Sessions: tentatively planned for March 2021, June 2021 and September 2021
- Environmental Study Report (final report): submission tentatively planned for December 2021

## Additional Information

For more information about the Region's Municipal Class EA study, please visit:  
<https://www.niagararegion.ca/news/notices/notice.aspx?q=514>

## Contact Information

### **Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way,  
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6

Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

### **Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

3450 Harvester Road, Suite 100,  
Burlington, ON L7N 3W5

Telephone: 905-380-3601

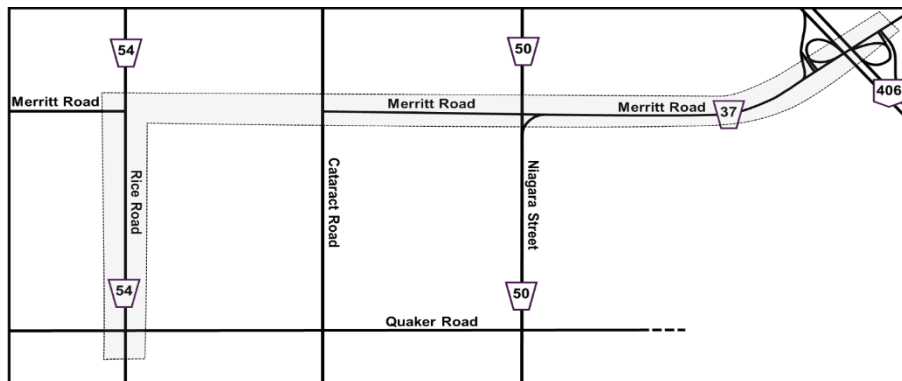
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

# Notice of Study Commencement

## Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

### The Study

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) has initiated an Environmental Assessment Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study aims to reimagine the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

### The Process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) Municipal Class EA document (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 & 2015), which is an

approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report (ESR) will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## Public Comments Invited

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. Project notifications will be issued at key milestones through advertisement in local newspapers, emails and mail outs to the contacts on the Study Mailing List. Three (3) Public Information Centres (PICs) **(possibly in an online format)** will be conducted to solicit public input. The PICs will provide an opportunity for the public to review the proposed alternative solutions and designs, as well as provide comments and discuss concerns and issues with the project team. As the Study progresses and more information becomes available, it will be posted on [the project webpage](#).

## COVID-19

Niagara Region recognizes that this project is being carried out during uncertain times with respect to the Covid-19 pandemic. Niagara Region will take all necessary steps to ensure maintaining the health and safety of the public. Given the uncertainty of the pandemic, most of the future consultation and communications with the public will be online. As such, the project team is asking that **if you would like to receive future notices via email, to please provide your email address** to the Region Project Manager identified below. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of the project team members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way,  
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment &  
Infrastructure Solutions  
3450 Harvester Road, Suite 100,  
Burlington, ON L7N 3W5  
Telephone: 905-380-3601  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Notice First Issued: January 4, 2021.

Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** Howell, Cara  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 11:49 AM  
**To:** traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; Elmadhoon, Maged; jocko@sixnationsns.com; Todd Williams; hdi2@bellnet.ca; Seguin, Jason  
**Subject:** Information Sharing Letter - Merritt- Rice Road  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_InformationSharingLetter-HDI\_1-02-2021.pdf

Good Morning Tracey,

Please find attached an information sharing letter for the upcoming Stage 1 archaeological assessment along Merritt and Rice Road.

Please feel free to contact me if you any questions or concerns.

Regards,  
Cara

Cara Howell B.A.  
Member, Association of Professional Archaeologists (Ontario)  
Senior Archaeologist, Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
3450 Harvester Road, Suite 100 Burlington, Ontario L7N 3W5  
Direct: (905) 335 2353 x3017  
Mobile: (905) 730 5735  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**



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February 1, 2021

Reference Number: IM20103036  
Department of Consultation and Accommodation  
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation  
4065 Highway 6 North, Hagersville, ON  
N0A 1H0

Attention: Tracey General, Senior Administrator, Haudenosaunee Development Institute.  
Via e-mail to: [traceyghdi@gmail.com](mailto:traceyghdi@gmail.com)

**RE: Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment in Support of a Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment and Detailed Transportation Assessment along Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold, and City of Welland.**

Dear Tracey General,

The Niagara Region requires a Stage 1 archaeological assessment in support of a Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment and Detailed Transportation Assessment for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold, and City of Welland. Study Area. The study area is shown in **Figure 1**. The Notice of Study Commencement along with Project Summary was shared with you on January 14, 2021.

This information sharing letter is provided in keeping with Niagara Region's ongoing Indigenous engagement process. This letter provides the schedule for Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, Study Area map, scope of work, and information on the Archaeology Team Members.

### **Schedule for Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment**

It is assumed that the Stage 1 archaeological assessment fieldwork will take place during February 2021, weather permitting. The Stage 1 fieldwork will take two days to complete. A winter work strategy was submitted, and approved, to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries' (MHSTCI).





Figure 1 - Stage 1 Study Area

## Scope of Work for Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

The scope of work for the Stage 1 background study will consist of the following tasks:

- Indigenous Engagement;
- Contact the MHSTCI to determine a comprehensive listing of recorded archaeological sites within 1 kilometre ("km") of the study area;
- Contact the MHSTCI to determine a comprehensive listing of previous archaeological assessments that have been conducted within a 50 meter ("m") radius;
- A desktop review of the study area's physical setting to determine its potential for both historic and precontact human occupation, including its physiographic and hydrographic situation, soils, and proximity to important resources and historical transportation routes and settlements;
- A review of the potential for historic period occupation as documented in historical atlases and other archival sources;
- A property inspection to gather current, first-hand information on archaeological potential and to aid in delineating where archaeological potential may have been impacted or removed by recent land-use practices;
- Mapping, photography and production of other relevant graphics;
- An executive summary preceding the main text of the report will be prepared summarizing the findings and recommendations of the report;
- Preparation of a Draft Stage 1 archaeological assessment report of findings with recommendations regarding the need for further archaeological work if deemed necessary.

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment and site visit will be conducted in accordance with the MHSTCI 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* set out by the MHSTCI pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18.

## Project Team

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA, Associate Archaeologist Role: Senior Review**– Dr. Popkin is an Associate and Senior Archaeologist at Wood. Peter has over 20 years of professional experience in both consulting and academic archaeology within Canada and internationally. In Ontario he has successfully undertaken consultant archaeology projects triggered by: the Planning Act (subdivisions, site plans, re-zoning, official plan amendments, consent), the Environmental Assessment Act (individual and Class EAs, provincial and federal EAs), the Environmental Protection Act (Renewable Energy Approvals O.Reg 359/09), as well as the Aggregates Resources Act (aggregate pit extensions), and has managed projects under the National Energy Board Act (now the Canadian Energy Regulator Act). Dr. Popkin has lectured in archaeology at York University, the University of Toronto and Wilfrid Laurier University in Ontario, as well as University



College London, King's College London, and Birkbeck College, in the UK. Dr. Popkin holds a Professional Archaeology Licence (P362) from the MHSTCI, is a Professional Member of the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals (CAHP) and is a full Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCI(A)). Dr. Popkin received his Ph.D. from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, London, UK (2009).

**Barbara Slim, M.A., Associate Archaeologist, Ontario Archaeology Discipline Lead, Role: Technical Review** – Ms. Slim is a professionally licensed archaeologist with over 16 years of experience in the archaeology and environmental consulting industry. Ms. Slim has conducted all aspects of Stage 1 to 4 archaeological assessments for provincial agencies, municipalities, and land developers in support of infrastructure developments, financial real estate transactions, environmental remediation and private developments. As a founding member of the Wood Ontario archaeology team, Ms. Slim has performed every aspect of project execution, from client relations, project design to MHSTCI clearance. Through her project experience, Ms. Slim has gained an in-depth understanding of the Heritage Act and legislations & standards associated with cultural heritage management. Ms. Slim holds a Master's Degree in Anthropology from Trent University and an Honours Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies and Anthropology from Trent University. Ms. Slim currently holds a Professional Archaeology Licence (P348) issued by the MHSTCI and is a member of the Ontario Association of Professional Archaeologists.

**Cara Howell, B.A., Senior Archaeologist, Role: Archaeological Project Manager and Field Director** – Ms. Howell holds a B.A. Degree in Anthropology and Classical Archaeology from McMaster University and has been working in the field of archaeological consulting since 1999. She holds an Applied Research License (R180) in archaeology from the MHSTCI and possesses a full range of archaeological skills. As a result of her specialized interest in the historic Euro-Canadian period, she has become an authority on early Euro-Canadian artifacts and historic period background research. As the archaeology Laboratory Director for Wood's Cultural Heritage Resources Group, she developed and implements a computerized cataloguing system for artifacts and other resources. Ms. Howell also serves as lead liaison with First Nations communities.

**Jason Seguin, M.A., Senior Archaeologist, Role: Project Licensee and Report Writer** – Mr. Seguin has worked as an archaeologist / anthropologist since 2004. Mr. Seguin has conducted Stage 1 to 4 archaeological assessments including background searches, field surveys, archaeological excavations, analysis of cultural artifacts, laboratory work and reporting. Mr. Seguin is involved in project management and supervision as well as being an archaeological laboratory director. Mr. Seguin has developed research and communication skills through editing field reports, teaching university level students in both lecture and seminar environments, as well as preparing and presenting presentations at academic conferences. Mr. Seguin's education and work experience have provided him with an extensive knowledge base, consisting of theoretical and practical experience in cultural resource management in Canada and Central America, as well as curatorial, archival and museum management experience. Mr. Seguin holds a Master's Degree in Anthropology from Trent University, and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Museum Management and Curatorship from Sir Sandford Fleming College. Mr. Seguin currently holds a Professional Archaeology License (License P354) issued by the MHSTCI.

We have provided this information sharing letter to demonstrate that we take your interest in the project area very seriously. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [cara.howell@woodplc.com](mailto:cara.howell@woodplc.com).

Respectfully submitted,

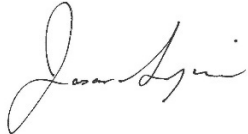
**Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions,  
A Division of Wood Canada Limited**



Cara Howell (R180)  
Senior Archaeologist  
[cara.howell@woodplc.com](mailto:cara.howell@woodplc.com)



Barbara Slim, M.A. (P348)  
Associate Archaeologist  
[barbara.slim@woodplc.com](mailto:barbara.slim@woodplc.com)



Jason Seguin, M.A. (P354)  
Senior Archaeologist  
[Jason.seguin@woodplc.com](mailto:Jason.seguin@woodplc.com)

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 5, 2021 4:29 PM  
**To:** traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; williams.todde@gmail.com; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Shams, Anika; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_CoverLetter\_PIC-HDI.pdf; notice-of-pic-merritt-rd.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Tracey General, Office Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #1.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:  
<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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Tracey General  
Office Manager  
Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council  
c/o Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
[hdi2@bellnet.ca](mailto:hdi2@bellnet.ca)

March 5, 2021

**Re: Notice of Public Information Centre #1 - Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland**

Dear Ms. General,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. A Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary was sent to the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council by the Niagara Region on January 14, 2021.

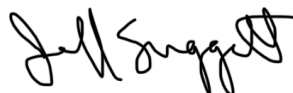
The Niagara Region is planning to host the Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 to introduce the Study to the community. As part of the PIC, an online presentation will be delivered on **March 24, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. If you would like to attend the online presentation, please send an email to [mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com) to receive an invite. In addition, information materials related to the Online PIC #1 will be available on the project webpage starting **March 24, 2021** and comments will be received until **April 7, 2021**. The project webpage is at <https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>.

The Niagara Region would like to invite the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council to participate in the PIC #1 and provide any comments about the project. Alternatively, the Niagara Region would welcome the opportunity to meet and present this information to you and discuss any comments you may have about the project. We are also seeking information about the potential for the project to affect Indigenous and treaty rights. If you would like to meet, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Elmadhoon".

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Suggett".

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

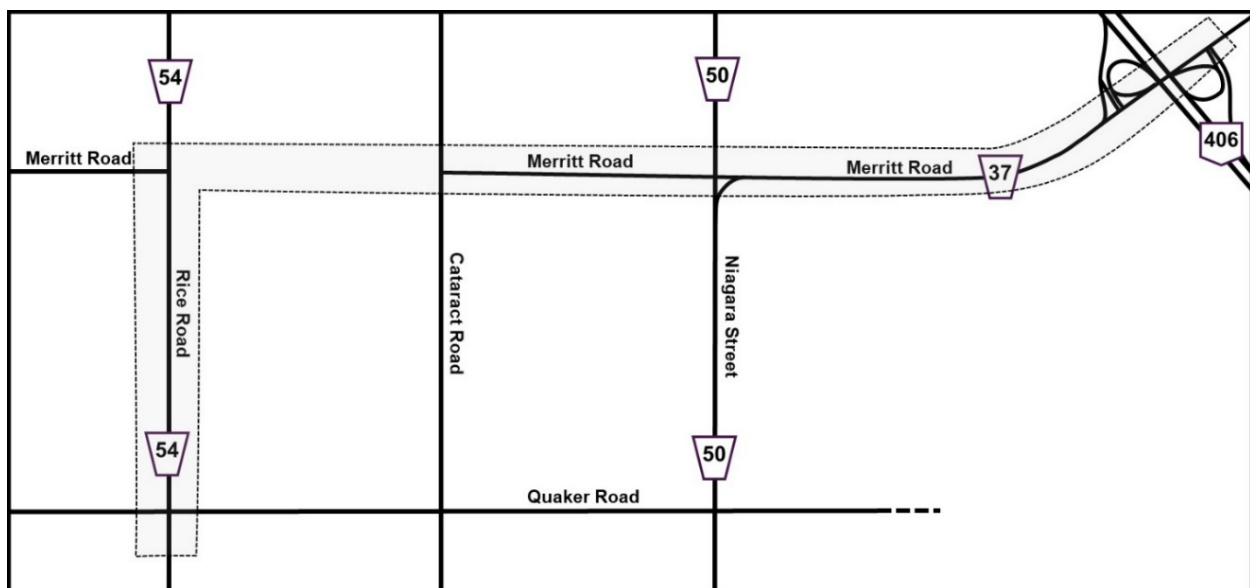
Cc: Leroy Jocko Hill ([jocko@sixnationsns.com](mailto:jocko@sixnationsns.com))  
Todd Williams ([williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com))  
Mary Kelly, Wood ([mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com))

Encl: Notice of Public Information Centre #1

# Notice of Online Public Information Centre #1 Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

## The Study

Niagara Region is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study will aim to identify improvements to the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

## The process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class EA process, which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This study will address the requirements of Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class EA process. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## You are invited to participate

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. Three (3) Public Information Centers will be conducted throughout this study to solicit public input. At this time, the Niagara Region is planning to host the Public Information Centre (PIC) #1. The purpose of the first PIC is to share information about the project background, Class EA Study process, the problem to be addressed by this study, and obtain preliminary input from the public for consideration into the Study process. The PIC #1 will be held in **an online format**. You can participate in this PIC by attending an online presentation and/or by viewing information materials on Wood's Virtual Consultation Platform.

**Online Presentation:** The Study Team will deliver an online presentation on **March 24, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask any questions or submit comments. Please email [mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com) (**Mir Talpur, Environmental Planner**) to receive an invite to the online presentation.

**Virtual Consultation Platform:** Information materials related to the Online PIC #1 will be available on [Wood's Consultation Platform on project webpage](#) starting **March 24, 2021** and comments will be received until **April 7, 2021**.

## Stay Connected

If you would like to receive future notices via email, or if you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Study Team Members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Niagara Region

905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

905-380-3601

[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 12:55 PM  
**To:** traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; williams.todde@gmail.com; van den Burg, Gina; Elmadhoon, Maged; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Tracey,

We are pleased to share the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region. The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link.

Download Link:  [Stage 1 AA & CH Assessment](#)

We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by May 22, 2021.

Thanks,  
Anika

### Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP

Human Environment Consultant  
Direct: + (905) 568-2929  
Mobile: + (416) 357-2093  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 5, 2021 4:29 PM  
**To:** traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; williams.todde@gmail.com; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Tracey General, Office Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to



## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 8:03 AM  
**To:** traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; williams.todde@gmail.com; van den Burg, Gina; Elmadhoon, Maged; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Tracey,

We are following up to see if you have had a chance to review the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for the Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region and had any questions or comments for us at this time? As a reminder, if you could send us comments or questions by May 22, 2021, that would be great. If you need more time to review, please let us know.

Thank you,  
Anika

### Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP

Human Environment Consultant

Direct: + (905) 568-2929

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 12:55 PM  
**To:** traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; williams.todde@gmail.com; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 1-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Tracey,

We are pleased to share the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA in Niagara Region. The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link.

Download Link:  [Stage 1 AA & CH Assessment](#)

We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by May 22, 2021.

Thanks,  
Anika

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 4:29 PM  
**To:** traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; williams.todde@gmail.com; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_CoverLetter\_PIC2-HDI\_26-05-2021.pdf; IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_Notice-PIC#2\_19-05-2021 (Website).pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Tracey General, Office Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #2.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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Tracey General  
Senior Administrator  
Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council  
c/o Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
[hdi2@bellnet.ca](mailto:hdi2@bellnet.ca)

May 26, 2021

**Re: Notice of Public Information Centre #2 - Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland**

Dear Ms. General,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA / the Study) for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.

A Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary was sent to the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council by the Niagara Region on January 14, 2021, followed by a Notice of Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 on March 5, 2021. PIC #1 was held from March 24, 2021 to April 7, 2021 to introduce the Study. A Summary Report documenting the comments received from PIC #1 and Study Team's responses is provided on the [project webpage](#).

The Niagara Region is now planning to host **PIC #2** to share information about the Study, the evaluation of alternative solutions, the preferred solution and obtain input for consideration into the Study. As part of the PIC, an online presentation will be delivered on **Wednesday, June 9, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. If you would like to attend the online presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#) on the day of presentation and click on the presentation link. In addition, information materials related to the PIC #2 will be available on the project webpage starting June 9, 2021 and comments will be received until **June 30, 2021**.

The Niagara Region would like to invite the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council to participate in the PIC #2 and provide any comments about the project. Alternatively, the Niagara Region would welcome the opportunity to meet and present this information to you and discuss any comments you may have about the project. We are also seeking information about the potential for the project to affect Indigenous and treaty rights. If you would like to meet, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

*M. Elmadhoon*

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

*Jeff Suggett*

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Cc: Leroy Jocko Hill ([jocko@sixnationsns.com](mailto:jocko@sixnationsns.com))  
Todd Williams ([williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com))  
Mary Kelly, Wood ([mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com))

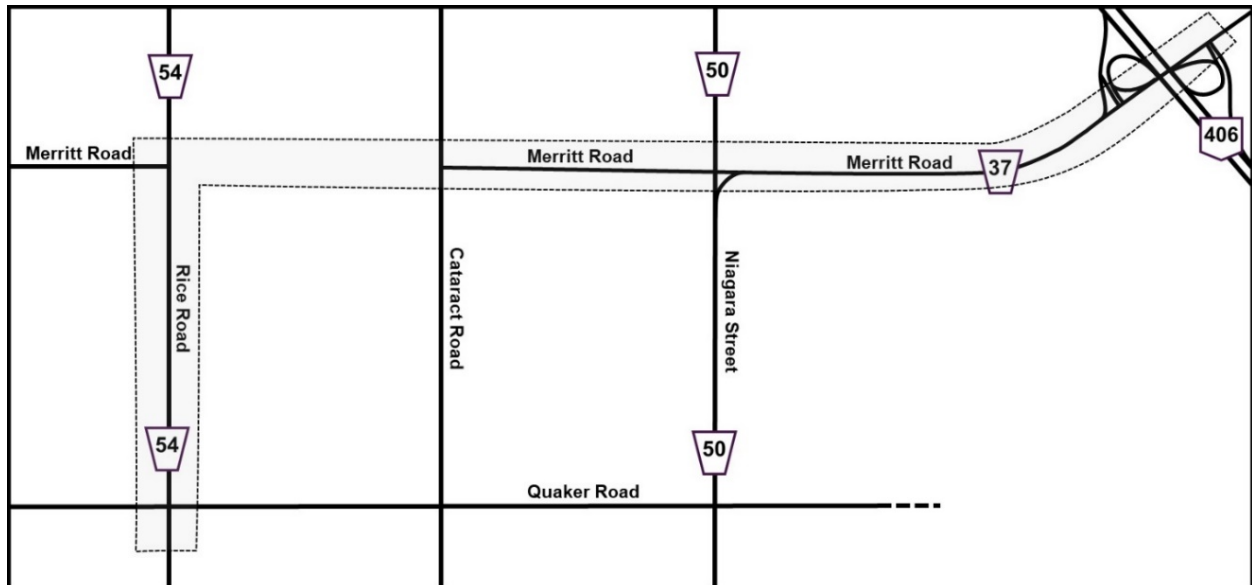
Encl: Notice of Public Information Centre #2

## Notice of Online Public Information Centre #2

### Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

#### The Study

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study will aim to identify improvements to the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study will address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

## The Process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class EA process, which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This study will address the requirements of Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class EA process. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## You are invited to participate!

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. The Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 was held from March 24, 2021 to April 7, 2021 to introduce the Study. A Summary Report documenting the comments received from PIC #1 and Study Team's responses is provided on the [project webpage](#).

The Niagara Region is now planning to host the **PIC #2** for this study. The purpose of this PIC is to share information about the study, the evaluation of alternative solutions, the preferred solution and obtain input for consideration into the Study. The PIC #2 will be held in an **online format** via project webpage.

You are invited to **attend the Online Presentation on Wednesday, June 9, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask any questions or submit comments. To join the online presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#) on the day of presentation and click on the presentation link. In addition, the information materials related to the PIC #2 will be available on the project webpage starting June 9, 2021, and comments will be received until **June 30, 2021**.

## Stay Connected!

If you would like to receive future notices via email, or if you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Study Team Members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Niagara Region

905-980-6000 ext. 3583

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**

Consultant Project Manager

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

905-380-3601

[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:37 AM  
**To:** Raechelle Williams  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; williams.todde@gmail.com; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Elmadhoon, Maged; traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Raechelle,

In keeping with our client's commitment to engage with Nations throughout the process regarding the Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, we wanted to follow up with the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI), to ensure you were updated on this Study. We have prepared a summary of the correspondence and outreach we have done in regards to this Study and provided this information in the table below for your reference.

As a follow up to our May 28<sup>th</sup> discussion, we would like to extend an invitation to meet and discuss any concerns or comments you might have at this time. Please let us know if you are interested and we can arrange a Teams meeting. Thank you for your time to review this request.

Date	Consultation Summary
14-Jan-21	Niagara Region reached out to identify that Niagara Region was undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland.
5-Mar-21	Niagara Region reached out to identify that the Public Information Centre (PIC) No. 1 was being held online starting March 24, 2021 and that Niagara Region is seeking input by April 7, 2021.
22-Apr-21	Wood, on behalf of Niagara Region shared the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for review with a deadline for comments requested by May 22, 2021.
13-May-21	Wood, on behalf of Niagara Region followed up on May 13, 2021 to inquire about any comments or questions on the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report.
28-May-21	Niagara Region provided a cover letter and Notice of PIC #2 which is scheduled for June 9, 2021.

The next steps in the Study includes field work for natural environment (vegetation surveys) and the third PIC for this fall. At this time, various technical reports will be ready, which we would be happy to share with HDI for review and comment. Please also let us know if you are interested in the upcoming field work. We look forward to hearing back from you.



## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** Raechelle Williams <janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2021 1:29 PM  
**To:** Shams, Aniq  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; Todd Williams; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Elmadhoon, Maged; Tracey General  
**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good morning Aniq,

Nya:weh/Thank-you for reaching out to HDI regarding Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road). As part of the HDI Environmental Team, we would like to be involved in the upcoming field work for the vegetation survey. Would you like for my team to draft up an agreement for HDI to be involved?

And as for the reports that would be great for you to share with HDI to allow us to review and if any comments are needed.

Again Nya:weh/Thank-you for reaching out to us,

*Raechelle Williams*  
**HDI Environmental Supervisor**  
**(519) 802 - 9402**

On Tue., Aug. 24, 2021, 11:36 a.m. Shams, Aniq, <[aniga.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniga.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

In keeping with our client's commitment to engage with Nations throughout the process regarding the Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, we wanted to follow up with the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI), to ensure you were updated on this Study. We have prepared a summary of the correspondence and outreach we have done in regards to this Study and provided this information in the table below for your reference.

As a follow up to our May 28<sup>th</sup> discussion, we would like to extend an invitation to meet and discuss any concerns or comments you might have at this time. Please let us know if you are interested and we can arrange a Teams meeting. Thank you for your time to review this request.

Date	Consultation Summary
------	----------------------

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2021 11:14 AM  
**To:** Raechelle Williams  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; Todd Williams; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; McGill, John; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Elmadhoon, Maged; Tracey General  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Raechelle,

Thank you for your response. Please draft up the agreement and send it to us (word version if possible) for review and sign off. Just a reminder that the agreement should be addressed to Niagara Region.

This link includes both Stage 1 Archaeology Report and the Cultural Heritage Report:

 [7 Merritt Road](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments at all.

Thanks,  
Anika

**Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Raechelle Williams <janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2021 1:29 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; Todd Williams <williams.todde@gmail.com>; van den Burg, Gina <Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; McGill, John <john.mcgill@woodplc.com>; Kelly, Mary K <mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Tracey General <traceyghdi@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good morning Anika,

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Raechelle Williams <janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2021 6:59 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika  
**Cc:** Todd Williams; Elmadhoon, Maged; Janice Bomberly; Talpur, Mir; Maher, Trina; Suggett, Jeff; Hughes, Samantha; Martin, Reuven  
**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hello Anika,

Yes, the Environmental Monitor that will be attending the field work is Matt Turner. I have forwarded the information you sent out on Monday and assured him the meeting time is at 11am.

Nya:weh/Thank-You,

Raechelle Williams

On Tue, Sep 14, 2021 at 12:12 PM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

We wanted to follow-up on the email below – can you confirm if Environmental Monitors will be on site tomorrow?

Thanks,

Anika

**Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**



---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 11:05 AM  
**To:** Raechelle Williams <[janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com](mailto:janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Janice Bomberry <[janicehdi@gmail.com](mailto:janicehdi@gmail.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Raechelle,

Here are the details for the upcoming field work -

- **Start Date:** September 15, 2021
- **End Date:** September 16, 2021
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** Two days
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site at 11 am on Sept 15. Staff will confirm arrival time for Sept 16.
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** Reuven Martin | 226-979-4105 | [reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (Vegetation Surveys)
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses)
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up, and [click here for a google maps link to that general location](#).
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (Reuven Martin) and FLRs from MCFN and HDI
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** Please see attached the Study Area map. A separate map and link to the meeting location is provided above.

- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any Environmental Monitor attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

Please note that the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation field liaisons will also be on site.

If you have any other questions, please let me know.

Thanks!

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**

**wood.**

---

**From:** Raechelle Williams <[janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com](mailto:janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, September 9, 2021 2:32 PM

**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Cc:** Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Janice Bomberry <[janicehdi@gmail.com](mailto:janicehdi@gmail.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Afternoon Anika,

Yes HDI will be providing an Environmental Monitor to participate in the Fall Vegetation Survey September 14-16. On Monday you will provide location and time correct? And will the Monitor need to complete any covid screening form?

*Raechelle Williams*

**HDI Environmental Supervisor**

**(519) 802 - 9402**

On Thu., Sep. 9, 2021, 12:33 p.m. Shams, Anika, <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Todd,

Please find attached the agreement with some edits from Niagara Region. If you could try to review and send this back to us by tomorrow, that would be very much appreciated!

We are currently scheduling field work for the Fall Vegetation Survey for Sept 14-16. Please let us know if you have any Environmental Monitors available to participate. We will provide additional details on Monday. We recognize that we are informing you with short notice – unfortunately, the dates for the Fall Vegetation Survey are not flexible. If the Environmental Monitors are unavailable for next week, we could plan a general survey sometime in October, where our Natural Environment staff would be happy to walk through the site and identify items of interest to the Environmental Monitors.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the upcoming field work or the attached agreement.

Thanks!

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**

---

**From:** Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 3:37 PM

**To:** Shams, Aniqa <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Cc:** Raechelle Williams <[janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com](mailto:janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>;  
Janice Bomberly <[janicehdi@gmail.com](mailto:janicehdi@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Aniqa,

See Draft HDI agreement for review.

Thanks Todd



On Mon, Aug 30, 2021 at 11:13 AM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

Thank you for your response. Please draft up the agreement and send it to us (word version if possible) for review and sign off. Just a reminder that the agreement should be addressed to Niagara Region.

This link includes both Stage 1 Archaeology Report and the Cultural Heritage Report:

[7 Merritt Road](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments at all.

Thanks,

Anika

**Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**

---

**From:** Raechelle Williams <[janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com](mailto:janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2021 1:29 PM

**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Cc:** [jocko@sixnationsns.com](mailto:jocko@sixnationsns.com); Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; van den Burg, Gina <[Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir

<[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; McGill, John <[john.mcgill@woodplc.com](mailto:john.mcgill@woodplc.com)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Tracey General <[traceyghdi@gmail.com](mailto:traceyghdi@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good morning Anika,

Nya:weh/Thank-you for reaching out to HDI regarding Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road). As part of the HDI Environmental Team, we would like to be involved in the upcoming field work for the vegetation survey. Would you like for my team to draft up an agreement for HDI to be involved?

And as for the reports that would be great for you to share with HDI to allow us to review and if any comments are needed.

Again Nya:weh/Thank-you for reaching out to us,

*Raechelle Williams*

**HDI Environmental Supervisor**

**(519) 802 - 9402**

On Tue., Aug. 24, 2021, 11:36 a.m. Shams, Anika, <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

In keeping with our client's commitment to engage with Nations throughout the process regarding the Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, we wanted to follow up with the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI), to ensure you were updated on this Study. We have prepared a summary of the correspondence and outreach we have done in regards to this Study and provided this information in the table below for your reference.

As a follow up to our May 28<sup>th</sup> discussion, we would like to extend an invitation to meet and discuss any concerns or comments you might have at this time. Please let us know if you are interested and we can arrange a Teams meeting. Thank you for your time to review this request.

Date	Consultation Summary
14-Jan-21	Niagara Region reached out to identify that Niagara Region was undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Improvements to Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road), in the Town of Pelham, City of Thorold and City of Welland.
5-Mar-21	Niagara Region reached out to identify that the Public Information Centre (PIC) No. 1 was being held online starting March 24, 2021 and that Niagara Region is seeking input by April 7, 2021.
22-Apr-21	Wood, on behalf of Niagara Region shared the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report for review with a deadline for comments requested by May 22, 2021.
13-May-21	Wood, on behalf of Niagara Region followed up on May 13, 2021 to inquire about any comments or questions on the draft Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions Report.
28-May-21	Niagara Region provided a cover letter and Notice of PIC #2 which is scheduled for June 9, 2021.

The next steps in the Study includes field work for natural environment (vegetation surveys) and the third PIC for this fall. At this time, various technical reports will be ready, which we would be happy to share with HDI for review and comment. Please also let us know if you are interested in the upcoming field work. We look forward to hearing back from you.

Best regards,

Aniqa

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 4:29 PM

**To:** [traceyghdi@gmail.com](mailto:traceyghdi@gmail.com)

**Cc:** [jocko@sixnationsns.com](mailto:jocko@sixnationsns.com); [williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com); van den Burg, Gina

<[Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Gina.vandenBurg@niagararegion.ca)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir

<[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; McGill, John <[john.mcgill@woodplc.com](mailto:john.mcgill@woodplc.com)>; Kelly, Mary K <[mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com](mailto:mary.k.kelly@woodplc.com)>;

Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>

**Subject:** Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Tracey General, Office Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #2.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards

Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Transportation Systems & Planning

Public Works, Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 10:06 AM  
**To:** Todd Williams; Shams, Anika  
**Cc:** Raechelle Williams; Janice Bomberry; Talpur, Mir; Maher, Trina  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** HDI Enviro Agree-Niagara-Wood-Improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road-13Sep21.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Signed agreement attached.

Thanks

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Systems & Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



---

**From:** Todd Williams <williams.todde@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2021 9:54 AM  
**To:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>  
**Cc:** Raechelle Williams <janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Janice Bomberry <janicehdi@gmail.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Maher, Trina <trina.maher@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Niagara Region email system. Use caution when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Morning Anika,

See updated monitoring agreement.

If okay, please sign and return.

Thanks Todd

On Thu, Sep 9, 2021 at 12:33 PM Shams, Anika <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Todd,

Please find attached the agreement with some edits from Niagara Region. If you could try to review and send this back to us by tomorrow, that would be very much appreciated!

We are currently scheduling field work for the Fall Vegetation Survey for Sept 14-16. Please let us know if you have any Environmental Monitors available to participate. We will provide additional details on Monday. We recognize that we are informing you with short notice – unfortunately, the dates for the Fall Vegetation Survey are not flexible. If the Environmental Monitors are unavailable for next week, we could plan a general survey sometime in October, where our Natural Environment staff would be happy to walk through the site and identify items of interest to the Environmental Monitors.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the upcoming field work or the attached agreement.

Thanks!

Anika

**Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**

**wood.**

---

**From:** Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 3:37 PM

**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Cc:** Raechelle Williams <[janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com](mailto:janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged  
<[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Janice Bomberry <[janicehdi@gmail.com](mailto:janicehdi@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Anika,

See Draft HDI agreement for review.

Thanks Todd

On Mon, Aug 30, 2021 at 11:13 AM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

Thank you for your response. Please draft up the agreement and send it to us (word version if possible) for review and sign off. Just a reminder that the agreement should be addressed to Niagara Region.

This link includes both Stage 1 Archaeology Report and the Cultural Heritage Report:

 [7 Merritt Road](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments at all.

Thanks,



## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:34 AM  
**To:** Todd Williams  
**Cc:** Raechelle Williams; Elmadhoon, Maged; Janice Bomberry; Talpur, Mir; Maher, Trina  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** HDI Enviro Agree-Niagara-Wood-improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road-1Sep21.docx

Hi Todd,

Thanks so much for providing the agreement. We will review and let you know if we have any proposed edits or comments. Just to note – we have the fall vegetation survey planned for next week, so we will aim to finalize this agreement prior to the field work.

Thanks!  
Anika

### Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Todd Williams <williams.todde@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 3:37 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>  
**Cc:** Raechelle Williams <janice.r.n.w23@gmail.com>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Janice Bomberry <janicehdi@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hi Anika,

See Draft HDI agreement for review.

Thanks Todd

On Mon, Aug 30, 2021 at 11:13 AM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Todd Williams <williams.todde@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 4, 2021 3:37 PM  
**To:** Elmadhoon, Maged  
**Cc:** Shams, Anika; Janice Bomberly; Talpur, Mir; Maher, Trina; Janice Williams  
**Subject:** Re: Notice of PIC 2-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** HDI Enviro Agree-Niagara-Wood-Improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road-signed.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Maged,

Signed agreement attached.

Todd

On Mon, Sep 13, 2021 at 10:06 AM Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)> wrote:

Signed agreement attached.

Thanks

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Transportation Systems & Planning

Public Works, Niagara Region

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583

Cell: 289-407-6862

[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 8:53 AM  
**To:** traceyghdi@gmail.com  
**Cc:** jocko@sixnationsns.com; williams.todde@gmail.com; van den Burg, Gina; Suggett, Jeff; Talpur, Mir; Kelly, Mary K; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Wilson, Josh; Siyam, Waad; Esmaeeli, Hamed  
**Subject:** Notice of PIC 3-EA-Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)  
**Attachments:** IM20103036\_MerrittRd-RiceRd\_Niagara\_Notice-PIC#3\_04-11-2021 (Website).pdf; HDI\_Merritt-Rice\_Niagara\_CoverLetter\_PIC3.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

**Attention: Tracey General, Office Manager,**

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road due to proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland. Please find attached a cover letter and the Notice of Public Information Centre #3.

For more up to date information about the project, please visit the project webpage:

<https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question in regards to the project.

Best regards  
Maged

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)**

Manager, Transportation Planning  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



The Regional Municipality of Niagara Confidentiality Notice The information contained in this communication including any attachments may be confidential, is intended only for the use of the recipient(s) named above, and may be legally privileged. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, disclosure, or copying of this communication, or any of its contents, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please re-send this communication to the sender and permanently delete the original and any copy of it from your computer system. Thank you.

November 15, 2021

Tracey General  
Office Manager  
Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council  
c/o Haudenosaunee Development Institute

**Attention: Tracey General**

SENT VIA EMAIL

**RE: Notice of Online Public Information Centre #3 - Schedule 'C'  
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37)  
and Rice Rd. (RR 54) Pelham, Thorold and Welland**

Dear Ms. General,

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is pleased to provide the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council, as represented by the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI) with an update on this Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study. The Class EA Study was initiated in January 2021 to identify improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road in the Town of Pelham, and in the Cities of Thorold and Welland.

Consultation with the Indigenous Nations is a key element of the Class EA process and input is invited for incorporation into the planning and design of the project. A Notice of Study Commencement and a Project Summary was sent to the HDI on January 14, 2021. A Notice for the Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 to introduce the Study was shared with the HDI on March 5, 2021, and the PIC #1 Online Presentation was held on March 24, 2021. A Notice of the PIC #2 to share preferred solution was shared with the HDI on May 26, 2021, and this PIC was held on June 9, 2021. The Niagara Region has now completed Phase 3 of the Class EA process for the project and has identified the preliminary preferred design for the road improvements.

A third PIC is planned to be held **Online** to present the preliminary preferred design for the road improvements. As part of the PIC, an **Online** Presentation will be held on **Wednesday, December 1, 2021**, starting at **6:00 p.m.** The Niagara Region is inviting the HDI to participate in the PIC #3. If HDI would like to attend the Online Presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#). Access to the Online Presentation will be available on the scheduled date and time of the PIC #3. Information materials for the PIC #3 will be available on the [project webpage](#) starting **December 1, 2021**, and comments will be received until **December 16, 2021**. The project webpage is at: <https://niagararegion.ca/projects/regional-road-37>

Alternatively, the Niagara Region would welcome the opportunity to meet and present this information to the HDI and discuss any comments that HDI may have about the Study. The Niagara Region is also seeking information about the potential for the Project to affect Indigenous Nations and Treaty Rights. If the HDI would like to meet to discuss this project, please contact the undersigned.

Please refer to the attached Notice of Public Information Centre #3 for more information.

Sincerely,



**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**

Manager, Transportation Planning

Niagara Region

[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

Cc:

Leroy Jocko Hill ([jocko@sixnationsns.com](mailto:jocko@sixnationsns.com))

Todd Williams ([williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com))

Jeff Suggett, Wood ([Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com))

Trina Maher, Wood ([trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com))

Mir Ahsan Talpur ([mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com))

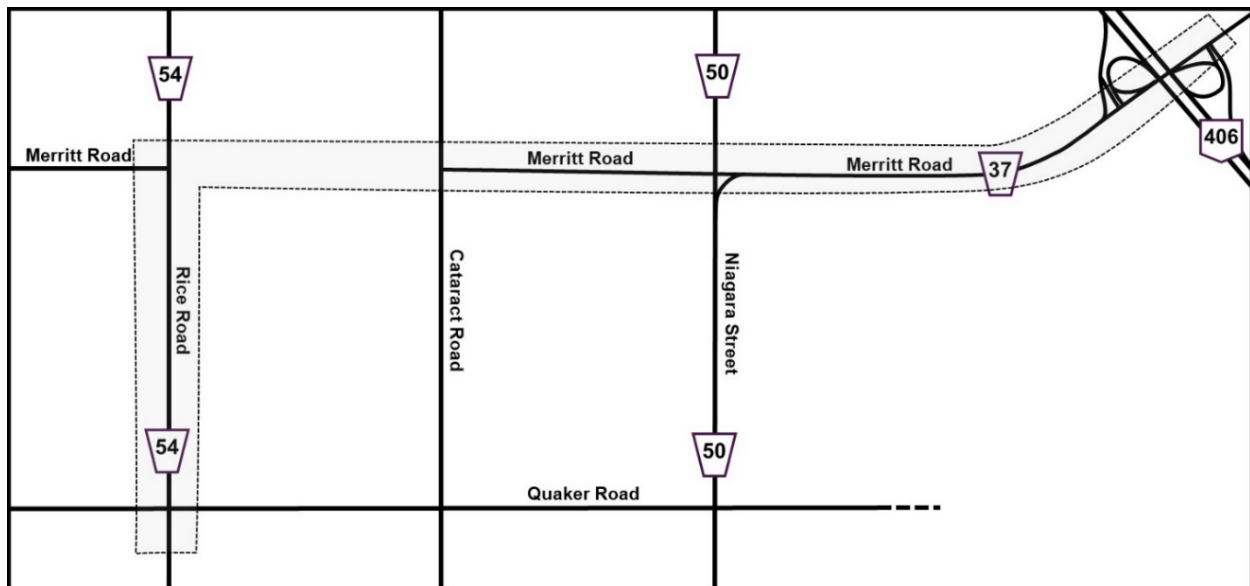
Enclosed: Notice of Public Information Centre #3

# Notice of Online Public Information Centre #3

## Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Merritt Rd. (RR 37) and Rice Rd. (RR 54) in Pelham, Thorold and Welland

### The Study

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) is undertaking an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for improvements to Merritt Road and Rice Road as a result of proposed developments in the Town of Pelham, the City of Thorold and the City of Welland.



This study will build on the recommendations of the Niagara Region's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which included the following:

- Extension of Merritt Road between Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) and Cataract Road;
- Capacity improvements of Merritt Road from Cataract Road to Highway 406; and,
- Capacity improvements to Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) from 200 meters north of Merritt Road to Quaker Road.

The Study aims to identify improvements to the two roadways to meet the future needs of the surrounding community for all road users. The study also aims to address active transportation needs by providing dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure that is safe, attractive, conform to a complete streets approach, and compatible with the changing land use in the three local municipalities.

## The Process

The study is being carried out as a Schedule 'C' project in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class EA process, which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. This study will address the requirements of Phases 1 to 4 of the Municipal Class EA process. Once the study is complete, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and available for public review and comment. A Notice of Completion will be issued at that stage.

## You are invited to participate!

Consultation with the public, Indigenous Nations, regulatory agencies and stakeholders is a key element of the Class EA process. The Public Information Centre #1 was held from March 24, 2021, to April 7, 2021, and the Public Information Centre #2 was held from June 9, 2021, to June 30, 2021. Materials related to these events, including the summary reports documenting the comments received and Study Team's responses are available on the [project webpage](#).

The Niagara Region is now planning to host the third and last **Public Information Centre #3** for this study to share the preliminary preferred design for the road improvements. This event will be held in an **online format** via project webpage.

You are invited to **attend the Online Presentation on Wednesday, December 1, 2021**, starting at **6:00 pm**. There will be an opportunity at the end of the presentation to ask any questions or submit comments. To join the online presentation, please visit the [project webpage](#) on the day of presentation and click on the presentation link. In addition, the information materials related to the Public Information Centre #3 will be available on the project webpage starting December 1, 2021, and comments will be received until **December 16, 2021**.

## Stay Connected!

If you have any questions or comments, please contact one of the Study Team Members identified below:

**Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Niagara Region  
905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)

**Jeff Suggett, M. Sc.**  
Consultant Project Manager  
Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions  
905-380-3601  
[Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:Jeff.Suggett@woodplc.com)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.



## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 23, 2021 9:03 AM  
**To:** Raechelle Williams  
**Subject:** RE: Class EA - Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

Hi Raechelle,

Thanks for your response!

Anika

### Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Raechelle Williams <janicewilliams@hdi.land>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 22, 2021 3:14 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Maher, Trina <trina.maher@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Suggett, Jeff <jeff.suggett@woodplc.com>; Todd Williams <williams.todde@gmail.com>; Tracey General <traceyghdi@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Class EA - Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

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Sge:no/Hello Anika,

Thank-you for confirming the field studies are complete in this EA Process. The technical studies, HDI is interested in receiving the following items once they are complete:

- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Stormwater Report
- Transportation Assessment
- Environemtntl Study Report (Final Report)

To elaborate on the last comment made, HDI requests to be involved during the Construction and Remediation Phases of this project. HDI Environmental Monitoring inquires about a weekly inspection on sediment and erosion control measures, any sort of dewatering activity, fish salvage, wildlife sweeps, active work being conducted within or near

watercourses, removal of vegetation and monitoring onsite while soil work is ongoing. Receiving the project best management strategy of the project, will ensure HDI Environmental Monitoring is able to witness and report unbiased active field conditions and ensure all measures are being followed through.

HDI quality and assurance is having a monitor involved during all phases of the project (beginning to end). This provides a way ensuring all guidelines are met throughout and strengthens the areas most sensitive to the Haudenosaunee people.

Nya:weh/Thank-you,

Raechelle Williams  
HDI Environmental Supervisor  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
16 Sunrise Court, Suite 600 Ohsweken, ON  
P.O. Box 714  
Ph: 519-445-4222  
(Direct): 519-802-9402



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On Mon, Nov 22, 2021 at 6:12 AM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

Thanks for your call on Nov 16 regarding the Merritt Road and Rice Road Study. I am following up to confirm and answer a few items from our call. Firstly, can you please confirm if you've received the attached email from the Region regarding Notice of PIC #3? If you have any questions at all from PIC #3, please don't hesitate to contact us.

You asked for an update on field work – we do not have any further field work planned for this Study during the Class EA stage. The remaining technical studies include Environmental Impact Assessment, Stormwater Report and the Transportation Assessment. Please let us know if you are interested in reviewing the technical reports. We also have the draft Environmental Study Report (final report) remaining, which will be sent to you once completed.

The Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment was completed and circulated to HDI on April 22, 2021.

Lastly, you mentioned that HDI is interested in involvement in construction and detailed design. Can you please provide a little more detail on exactly what the interest is, so we can document it during the Class EA process for future phases?

Thanks,

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

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The logo for John Wood Group PLC, featuring the word "wood." in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font.

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Please click <http://www.woodplc.com/email-disclaimer> for notices and company information in relation to emails

## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** Janice Williams <janicewilliams@hdi.land>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 2:05 PM  
**To:** Shams, Aniq  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged; Talpur, Mir; Todd Williams; Tracey General; Khan, Muhammad; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Wilson, Josh; Esmaeeli, Hamed; Siyam, Waad; Martin, Reuven; Matt Turner  
**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (HDI)  
**Attachments:** image001.png

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hello Aniq,

Tyler will not be joining tomorrow instead I have Matt attending and his contact details are below:

Matt Turner  
Email: [matijturner@gmail.com](mailto:matijturner@gmail.com)  
Phone: 2269664492

Respectfully,

Raechelle Williams

On Thu., May 5, 2022, 9:27 a.m. Shams, Aniq, <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

The details for the upcoming field work are provided below:

- **Start Date:** May 6, 2022
- **End Date:** May 6, 2022
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** One day
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site at 9 am.
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** Reuven Martin | 226-979-4105 | [reuven.martin@woodplc.com](mailto:reuven.martin@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (targeted Species at Risk Surveys)

- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses)
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up, and [click here for a google maps link to that general location](#).
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (Reuven Martin)
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** Please see attached the Study Area map. A separate map and link to the meeting location is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any Environmental Monitor attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

Can you please provide Tyler Sandy's contact information, in case the field staff needs to get in touch?

If you have any other questions, please let me know.

Thanks!

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Janice Williams <janicewilliams@hdi.land>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 6:24 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; Tracey General <[traceyghdi@gmail.com](mailto:traceyghdi@gmail.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Wilson, Josh <[Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Josh.Wilson@niagararegion.ca)>; Esmaeeli, Hamed <[Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Hamed.Esmaeeli@niagararegion.ca)>; Siyam, Waad <[Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Waad.Siyam@niagararegion.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (HDI)

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Hello Anika,

Nya:weh/Thanks for providing an update on the upcoming fieldwork Wood has scheduled on May 6th and 20th 2022. Yeah I will have an environmental monitor part take with your team on both dates the fieldwork is planned. Could you forward me a meeting location I can send to the monitor who will attend?

May 6th 2022 - Tyler Sandy will be HDI Environmental Monitor for this field date

May 20th 2022 - Henry-James Anderson will be HDI Environmental Monitor for this field date

Nya:weh,

Raechelle Williams  
HDI Environmental Supervisor  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
16 Sunrise Court, Suite 402B Ohsweken, ON  
P.O. Box 714  
Ph: 519-445-4222

(Direct): 519-802-9402



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On Wed, Apr 27, 2022 at 7:42 AM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

We are currently planning fieldwork for targeted Species at Risk Surveys on May 6, 2022 and May 20, 2022 for the Merritt Road and Rice Road Municipal Class EA. We will provide additional details on meeting location and timing closer to the fieldwork date. Please let us know if a Field Liaison Representative from Haudenosaunee Development Institute would be interested and available to participate in this fieldwork.

Thank you,

Anika

**Anika Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

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**From:** Raechelle Williams <[janicewilliams@hdi.land](mailto:janicewilliams@hdi.land)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 22, 2021 3:14 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika <[aniga.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniga.shams@woodplc.com)>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Maher, Trina <[trina.maher@woodplc.com](mailto:trina.maher@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Suggett, Jeff <[jeff.suggett@woodplc.com](mailto:jeff.suggett@woodplc.com)>; Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; Tracey General <[traceyghdi@gmail.com](mailto:traceyghdi@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Class EA - Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Sge:no/Hello Anika,

Thank-you for confirming the field studies are complete in this EA Process. The technical studies, HDI is interested in receiving the following items once they are complete:

- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Stormwater Report
- Transportation Assessment
- Environemtnal Study Report (Final Report)

To elaborate on the last comment made, HDI requests to be involved during the Construction and Remediation Phases of this project. HDI Environmental Monitoring inquires about a weekly inspection on sediment and erosion control measures, any sort of dewatering activity, fish salvage, wildlife sweeps, active work being conducted within or near watercourses, removal of vegetation and monitoring onsite while soil work is ongoing. Receiving the project best management strategy of the project, will ensure HDI Environmental Monitoring is able to witness and report unbiased active field conditions and ensure all measures are being followed through.

HDI quality and assurance is having a monitor involved during all phases of the project (beginning to end). This provides a way ensuring all guidelines are met throughout and strengthens the areas most sensitive to the Haudenosaunee people.

Nya:weh/Thank-you,

Raechelle Williams  
HDI Environmental Supervisor  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
16 Sunrise Court, Suite 600 Ohsweken, ON

P.O. Box 714  
Ph: 519-445-4222  
(Direct): 519-802-9402



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On Mon, Nov 22, 2021 at 6:12 AM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

Thanks for your call on Nov 16 regarding the Merritt Road and Rice Road Study. I am following up to confirm and answer a few items from our call. Firstly, can you please confirm if you've received the attached email from the Region regarding Notice of PIC #3? If you have any questions at all from PIC #3, please don't hesitate to contact us.

You asked for an update on field work – we do not have any further field work planned for this Study during the Class EA stage. The remaining technical studies include Environmental Impact Assessment, Stormwater Report and the Transportation Assessment. Please let us know if you are interested in reviewing the technical reports. We also have the draft Environmental Study Report (final report) remaining, which will be sent to you once completed.

The Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment was completed and circulated to HDI on April 22, 2021.

Lastly, you mentioned that HDI is interested in involvement in construction and detailed design. Can you please provide a little more detail on exactly what the interest is, so we can document it during the Class EA process for future phases?

Thanks,

Anika

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 9:36 PM  
**To:** Janice Williams  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Todd Williams; Tracey General; Khan, Muhammad; Shams, Anika; Dunn, David; Hughes, Samantha  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (HDI)

Thank you, Raechelle.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, M.Env.Sc., EP**  
Environmental Planner  
Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Janice Williams <janicewilliams@hdi.land>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 4:59 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>  
**Cc:** Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Todd Williams <williams.todde@gmail.com>; Tracey General <traceyghdi@gmail.com>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Shams, Anika <anika.shams@woodplc.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@woodplc.com>; Hughes, Samantha <samantha.hughes@woodplc.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - SAR Survey Fieldwork Notice (HDI)

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Hello Mir,

I have asked Harry Whitlow to attend tomorrow field work as Henry is busy with another project tomorrow.

Please see Harry Whitlow contact details are 519-751-4823 in case the field staff needs to contact him in the morning.

Nya:weh/Thanks,

Raechelle Williams

On Thu., May 19, 2022, 2:41 p.m. Talpur, Mir, <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

Further to the emails below, the details for tomorrow's Species at Risk surveys for Merritt Road-Rice Road EA are provided below. Can you please provide Henry's contact information, in case the field staff needs to get in touch?

- **Start Date:** May 20, 2022
- **End Date:** May 20, 2022
- **# of days anticipated for fieldwork:** One day
- **Start Time:** Staff will be arriving on site at 9 am.
- **Consultant Company:** Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
- **Field Director(s) and Cell Phone(s):** David Dunn | Terrestrial Ecologist | (647) 616-6088 | [david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)
- **Stage of Fieldwork:** Natural Environment Field Investigations (targeted Species at Risk Surveys)
- **Required PPE:** Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Eye safety (glasses)
- **Meeting Location Address:** Please see the attached mark up, and [click here for a google maps link to that general location](#).
- **Size of Field Crew:** One staff from Wood (David Dunn)
- **Map outlining the fieldwork site and parking area:** A map and link to the meeting location is provided above.
- **COVID-19 Prevention Policy:** Wood is aware that the COVID-19 pandemic presents a challenge to everyone as we attempt to continue to perform work while practicing physical distancing. Please ensure that any Environmental Monitor attending the site is aware of the following practices that we are following on our work sites:
  - All employees and visitors to site must review the Fitness for Duty Medical Pre-Screening Form and provide their signature / confirmation on the Declaration Form Covid-19 (both attached);
  - Wood will limit the size of their field crew;
  - Distancing of workers and workers working separately with their own equipment.

## Shams, Anika

---

**From:** Janice Williams <janicewilliams@hdi.land>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 6:39 PM  
**To:** Shams, Anika  
**Cc:** Popkin, Peter; Kwiatkowski, Monika D; Khan, Muhammad; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Talpur, Mir; Todd Williams; sharann.martin@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (HDI)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hello Anika,

I am passing this message along to my colleagues Todd Williams and Sharan Martin as they are taking lead on any archaeology planned work being held this season. I have cc'd them both on this email thread and hoping they may respond back to you about having an HDI monitor present.

Nya:weh/Thanks,

Raechelle Williams  
HDI Environmental Supervisor  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
16 Sunrise Court, Suite 402B Ohsweken, ON  
P.O. Box 714  
Ph: 519-445-4222  
(Direct): 519-802-9402



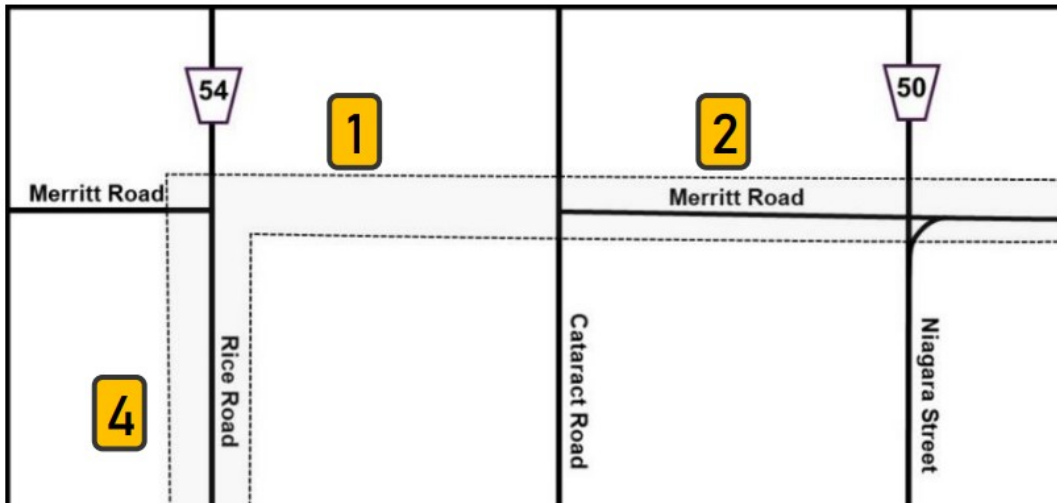
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On Thu, May 26, 2022 at 7:04 AM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

We're reaching out to notify you of the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, planned along Merritt Road unopened road allowance (Segment 1) (see the map below) for the Merritt Road and Rice Road Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. We plan to complete this work either the week of June 6 or June 13 and will last for approximately three (3) days. Please note that this is an advanced notice and we will confirm exact dates as we get closer to the days of the fieldwork. We will also be inviting Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation to participate in the fieldwork.

Please let us know if your FLRs would be available to join this fieldwork.



Best regards,

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

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## Shams, Aniq

---

**From:** Sharann Martin <sharannmartin@hdi.land>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 3:42 PM  
**To:** Talpur, Mir  
**Cc:** Sharann Martin; Todd Williams; Janice Williams; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Popkin, Peter; Khan, Muhammad; Shams, Aniq; Downey, Jordan; Dunn, David  
**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (HD)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good afternoon Mir,

Yes, we should be able to send someone out tomorrow. Thank you for the update.

Best,  
Sharann

On Thu, Jun 23, 2022 at 3:07 PM Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Good Afternoon Sharann,

I wanted to inform you that the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Merritt Rd-Rice Rd EA will restart tomorrow. I wanted to inquire if a monitor from HDI will be able to join our staff to monitor the fieldwork?

Please note that our staff have encountered significant amounts of ticks in the work area. We recommend that the field monitor wear tick repellent clothing as a safety precaution.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, [M.Env.Sc.](#), EP**



Environmental Planner  
Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

**wood.**

---

**From:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 17, 2022 3:20 PM  
**To:** Sharann Martin <[sharann.martin@gmail.com](mailto:sharann.martin@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; Janice Williams <[janicewilliams@hdi.land](mailto:janicewilliams@hdi.land)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (HDI)

Hello Sharann,

It has been brought to my attention that Tuesday 21 June 2022 is National Indigenous Peoples' Day. In light of this, we will not be completing archaeology on Tuesday 21 June 2022. The project dates will be Monday 20 June 2022, Wednesday 22 June 2022, and Thursday 23 June 2022.

regards,

Peter

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA**

Associate Archaeologist

Environment and Infrastructure Solutions

Pronouns – He/Him

Mobile: +1 (905) 329-6456

[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)  
[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)



---

**From:** Popkin, Peter  
**Sent:** Friday, June 17, 2022 2:59 PM  
**To:** Sharann Martin <[sharann.martin@gmail.com](mailto:sharann.martin@gmail.com)>  
**Cc:** Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; Janice Williams <[janicewilliams@hdi.land](mailto:janicewilliams@hdi.land)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (HDI)

Hello Sharann,

I'm writing on behalf of Mir and Anika to confirm that the Stage 2 AA test pit survey for the Merritt Road MCEA project will proceed on Monday of next week (20 June, 2022). Please see information below and mapping attached.

Start Date: June 20, 2022 (Pending weather conditions - Jordan Downey will confirm)

Duration: Three days

Start Time: 7:30 am

Consultant Company: Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions

Field Director(s): Jordan Downey, Ph.D. (Archaeology Project Manager)

Cell Phone(s): (437) 328-1681

Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Assessment: Borden Number (if applicable): NA

Required PPE: Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Bug repellent, sun screen, face mask (if social distancing cannot be maintained)

Meeting Location Address: [Merriitt Road / Rice Road intersection](#) (Please do not block private driveway entrance)

Size of Field Crew: Four (4)

A map outlining the site and parking area: Please see attached and the link above.

Please note that Jordan will be the primary contact from Wood for Monday.

regards,

Peter

**Peter Popkin, Ph.D., CAHP, MCIfA**

Associate Archaeologist

Environment and Infrastructure Solutions

Pronouns – He/Him

Mobile: +1 (905) 329-6456

[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)

[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)

The logo for Wood, featuring the word "wood." in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font. The period is a solid dot.

---

**From:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 10:44 AM

**To:** Sharann Martin <[sharann.martin@gmail.com](mailto:sharann.martin@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; Janice Williams <[janicewilliams@hdi.land](mailto:janicewilliams@hdi.land)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David

<[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (HDI)

Thank you for confirming, Sharann.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, [M.Env.Sc.](#), EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**

**wood.**

---

**From:** Sharann Martin <[sharann.martin@gmail.com](mailto:sharann.martin@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 9:30 AM

**To:** Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Cc:** Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; Janice Williams <[janicewilliams@hdi.land](mailto:janicewilliams@hdi.land)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Shams, Aniq <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (HDI)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good morning Mir,

Thank you for the update, it's much appreciated. We will be able to send someone out however, I won't know who it is until closer to the date. It's been added into the schedule and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you,

Sharann

On Wed, Jun 15, 2022 at 11:39 AM Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Todd and Sharan,

Further to the email correspondence below, we would also like to inform you that the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Merritt Road (from Rice Road to Cataract Road) is currently planned for June 20-22 (weather permitting). Peter or Jordan (copied here) will share the exact time and meeting location on Friday this week, and will also confirm at that time if plans change for June 20 due to rain forecast.

Could you please confirm if a Monitor from HDI would be available to monitor this work, and share their contact information?

I have provided contact information of the our director for this project below:

Jordan Downey, Ph.D.

Archaeology Project Manager

Mobile: +1 (437) 328-1681

Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

Mir

**Mir Ahsan Talpur, [M.Env.Sc.](#), EP**

Environmental Planner

Mobile: +1 (647) 545 8974

**[www.woodplc.com](http://www.woodplc.com)**

**wood.**

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**From:** Janice Williams <[janicewilliams@hdi.land](mailto:janicewilliams@hdi.land)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 6:39 PM

**To:** Shams, Aniq <[aniqa.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:aniqa.shams@woodplc.com)>

**Cc:** Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <[monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com](mailto:monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>; Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; [sharann.martin@gmail.com](mailto:sharann.martin@gmail.com)

**Subject:** Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA Advanced Notice (HDI)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Hello Aniq,

I am passing this message along to my colleagues Todd Williams and Sharan Martin as they are taking lead on any archaeology planned work being held this season. I have cc'd them both on this email thread and hoping they may respond back to you about having an HDI monitor present.

Nya:weh/Thanks,

Raechelle Williams  
HDI Environmental Supervisor  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
16 Sunrise Court, Suite 402B Ohsweken, ON  
P.O. Box 714  
Ph: 519-445-4222  
(Direct): 519-802-9402



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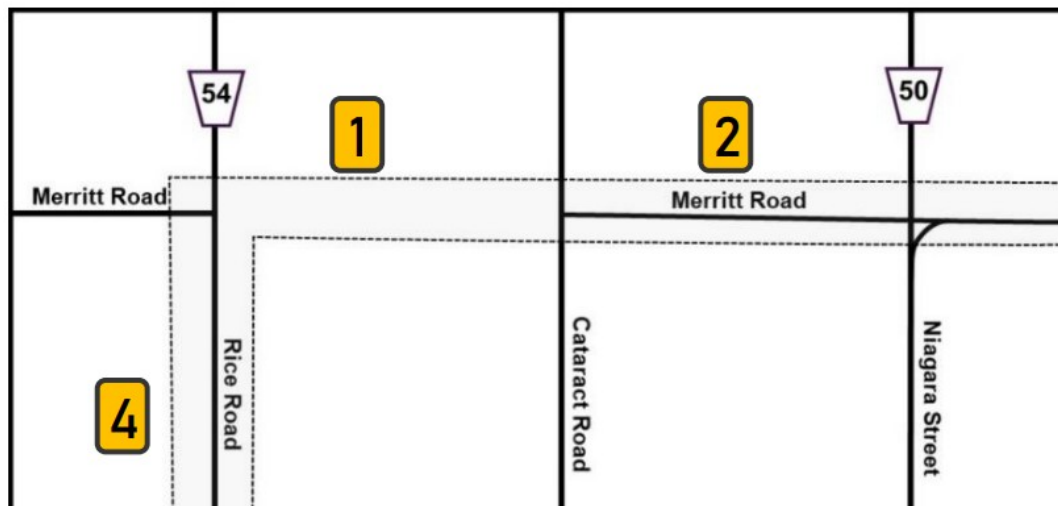
On Thu, May 26, 2022 at 7:04 AM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@woodplc.com](mailto:anika.shams@woodplc.com)> wrote:

Hi Raechelle,

We're reaching out to notify you of the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, planned along Merritt Road unopened road allowance (Segment 1) (see the map below) for the Merritt Road and Rice Road Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. We plan to complete this work either the week of June 6 or June 13 and will last for approximately three (3) days. Please note that this is an advanced notice and we will confirm exact dates as we get closer to the days of the fieldwork. We will also be inviting Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation to participate in the fieldwork.

Please let us know if your FLRs would be available to join this fieldwork.





Best regards,

Aniqa

**Aniqa Shams, RPP, MCIP**

Human Environment Consultant

Pronouns – She/Her/Hers

Mobile: + (416) 357-2093

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## Shams, Anika

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**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 2:41 PM  
**To:** Sharann Martin  
**Cc:** Sharann Martin; Todd Williams; Janice Williams; Elmadhoon, Maged; Alkarawi, Sulaf; Popkin, Peter; Khan, Muhammad; Dunn, David; Talpur, Mir; Cary, Henry; Downey, Jordan; Kwiatkowski, Monika D  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (HD) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork  
**Attachments:** Merritt Meeting Location.pdf

Hi Sharann,

We wanted to follow-up on the notification of Stage Archaeological fieldwork outlined below. The fieldwork will be occurring on **October 3, 2022** – please let us know at your earliest convenience if a monitor is available to participate, and please share their contact information.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Best regards,  
Anika



### Anika Shams

Human Environment Consultant  
MCIP, RPP  
*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&I Canada Limited  
2020 Winston Park Dr #700  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6H 6X7 Canada

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

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**From:** Shams, Anika  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 8:16 AM  
**To:** 'Sharann Martin' <sharannmartin@hdi.land>  
**Cc:** 'Sharann Martin' <sharann.martin@gmail.com>; 'Todd Williams' <williams.todde@gmail.com>; 'Janice Williams' <janicewilliams@hdi.land>; 'Elmadhoon, Maged' <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca>; Popkin, Peter <peter.popkin@woodplc.com>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Dunn, David <david.dunn@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>;

Cary, Henry <henry.cary@woodplc.com>; Downey, Jordan <jordan.downey@woodplc.com>; Kwiatkowski, Monika D <monika.kwiatkowski2@woodplc.com>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (HD) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

Hi Sharann,

Following the email sent on Sept 22 notifying HDI of the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological fieldwork, we wanted to provide additional details for the fieldwork.

Start Date: **October 3, 2022**

Duration: One, 10-hour day

Start Time: 8:30 am (0830)

Consultant Company: WSP E&I Canada Limited (Previously Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions)

Field Director(s): Jordan Downey, Ph.D. (Archaeology Project Manager)

Cell Phone(s): (437) 328-1681

Email: [jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)

Assessment: Borden Number (if applicable): NA

Required PPE: Safety boots; Safety vest; Hard hat; Bug repellent, sun screen, face mask (if social distancing cannot be maintained)

Meeting Location Address: [Merritt Road / Rice Road intersection](#) (Please do not block private driveway entrance)

Size of Field Crew: Four

A map outlining the site and parking area: Please see attached and the link above.

Please let us know if a monitor is available to participate, and please share their contact information.

Best regards,  
Aniqa



**Aniqa Shams**

Human Environment Consultant

MCIP, RPP

*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&I Canada Limited

2020 Winston Park Dr #700

Oakville, Ontario

L6H 6X7 Canada

[wsp.com](http://wsp.com)

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**From:** Shams, Aniq

**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 8:54 AM

**To:** Sharann Martin <[sharannmartin@hdi.land](mailto:sharannmartin@hdi.land)>

**Cc:** Sharann Martin <[sharann.martin@gmail.com](mailto:sharann.martin@gmail.com)>; Todd Williams <[williams.todde@gmail.com](mailto:williams.todde@gmail.com)>; Janice Williams <[janicewilliams@hdi.land](mailto:janicewilliams@hdi.land)>; Elmadhoon, Maged <[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)>; Alkarawi, Sulaf <[sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca](mailto:sulaf.alkarawi@niagararegion.ca)>; Popkin, Peter <[peter.popkin@woodplc.com](mailto:peter.popkin@woodplc.com)>; Khan, Muhammad <[muhammad.khan@woodplc.com](mailto:muhammad.khan@woodplc.com)>; Downey, Jordan <[jordan.downey@woodplc.com](mailto:jordan.downey@woodplc.com)>; Dunn, David <[david.dunn@woodplc.com](mailto:david.dunn@woodplc.com)>; Talpur, Mir <[mir.talpur@woodplc.com](mailto:mir.talpur@woodplc.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA (HD) - Oct 3 2022 Fieldwork

Hi Sharann,

We wanted to notify you of upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment fieldwork occurring for the Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. This will be a continuation of previous Stage 2 Archaeological fieldwork that has already occurred on this project. The fieldwork will be taking place on **October 3, 2022**. Please do let us know if HDI is available to participate.

We will provide additional details closer to the date.

Best regards,  
Aniq



**Aniq Shams**

Human Environment Consultant  
MCIP, RPP  
*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

WSP E&I Canada Limited  
2020 Winston Park Dr #700  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6H 6X7 Canada

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**From:** [Shams, Aniq](#)  
**To:** [Sharann Martin](#)  
**Cc:** [Sharann Martin](#); [Todd Williams](#); [Janice Williams](#); [Elmadhoon, Maged](#); [Khan, Muhammad](#); [Talpur, Mir](#); [Cary, Henry](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA for Segment 1 (HDI)  
**Date:** Thursday, December 15, 2022 9:04:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)

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Good morning Sharann,

We wanted to send you a reminder of the email below with the links to the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Segment 1. The comments are requested by January 5, 2023. If you have any trouble accessing the links below, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,  
Aniq

---

**From:** Shams, Aniq

**Sent:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 2:14 PM

**To:** Sharann Martin <sharannmartin@hdi.land>

**Cc:** Sharann Martin <sharann.martin@gmail.com>; Todd Williams <williams.todde@gmail.com>; Janice Williams <janicewilliams@hdi.land>; Elmadhoon, Maged <Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Khan, Muhammad <muhammad.khan@woodplc.com>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Cary, Henry <henry.cary@woodplc.com>

**Subject:** RE: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Stage 2 AA for Segment 1 (HDI)

Hi Sharann,

We are pleased to share the draft Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for Segment 1 Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA. As a reminder, Segment 1 consists of the Merritt Road right-of-way (ROW) between Rice Road and Cataract Road.

The documents are available to download from the link below, however please let me know if you are having trouble accessing the link -

**Stage 2 Arch Report for Segment 1** - [IM20103036\\_P327-0026-2022\\_7Dec2022\\_RE\\_St2-MerritRd\\_RiceRd\\_RevA.pdf](#)

**Supplementary Documentation** - [IM20103036\\_P327-0026-2022\\_7Dec2022\\_SD\\_St2-MerritRd\\_RiceRd\\_RevA.pdf](#)

We would appreciate if you could please let us know if you have any questions or comments by January 5, 2023.

Thank you,  
Aniq



**Aniq Shams**

Human Environment Consultant  
*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093

Talpur, Mir

---

From: مaged Elmadhoon <maged.elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>  
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:52 AM  
To: Shams, Anika <anika.shams@wsp.com>  
Cc: Elmadhoon, Maged <maged.elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Todd Williams <toddwilliams@hdi.land>; Shannon Hill <shannonhill@hdi.land>; HDI Administration <administration@hdi.land>  
Subject: Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Draft ESR (HDI)

**CAUTION:** External email. Please do not click on links/attachments unless you know the content is genuine and safe.

Good afternoon Raechelle,

Thank you for sending the monitoring agreement. We are near completion and filing the ESR. At this stage of the EA process, we are only looking for a review of the Draft ESR documents. As per the Region's current practice, we only compensate for the review of Stages 2-4 Archeological studies. As such, we are proceeding under our current agreements and are more than willing to review an overarching amendment as part of our ongoing communication with all communities. This will take place as part of the annual agreement review process.

We still hope HDI can review and provide any comments on the ESR documents by the due date. We are willing to extend the review date of the Draft documents to November 7, 2023 to provide more time for the review.

Best regards  
Maged

Maged Elmadhoon, M.Eng., P.Eng. (he/him)  
Manager, Transportation Planning  
Transportation Services Division  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON  
[Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Maged.Elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca)  
Phone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3583  
Cell: 289-407-6862  
[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



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From: Raechelle Williams <raechellewilliams@hdi.land>  
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:52 AM  
To: Shams, Anika <anika.shams@wsp.com>  
Cc: Elmadhoon, Maged <maged.elmadhoon@niagararegion.ca>; Talpur, Mir <mir.talpur@woodplc.com>; Todd Williams <toddwilliams@hdi.land>; Shannon Hill <shannonhill@hdi.land>; HDI Administration <administration@hdi.land>  
Subject: Re: Regional Road 37 (Merritt Road) and Regional Road 54 (Rice Road) MCEA - Draft ESR (HDI)

**CAUTION EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from outside of the Niagara Region email system. Use caution when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Morning Anika,

Please see attached monitoring agreement.

Once this is signed from both parties, we will begin our review and provide any comments.

Nya:weh,

Raechelle Williams  
HDI Environmental Supervisor  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
P.O. Box 714  
Ohsweken, ON  
NOA 1M0  
Ph: 519-445-4222  
(Direct): 519-802-9402



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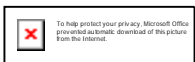
On Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 3:10 PM Raechelle Williams <[raechellewilliams@hdi.land](mailto:raechellewilliams@hdi.land)> wrote:

Sge:no Anika,

I have spoken with my team regarding this project. The agreement we had in place has expired and we will be sending out a new agreement to accommodate our review. Once the agreement is signed we will begin our initial review and provide any comments on the ESR.

Nya:weh,

Raechelle Williams  
HDI Environmental Supervisor  
Haudenosaunee Development Institute  
P.O. Box 714  
Ohsweken, ON  
NOA 1M0  
Ph: 519-445-4222  
(Direct): 519-802-9402



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On Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 2:42 PM Shams, Anika <[anika.shams@wsp.com](mailto:anika.shams@wsp.com)> wrote:



[illegible]

11/11/2019

□ □ □ □

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

3

□□□□□□□□  
□□□□



**Aniqa Shams**

Senior Social Sciences and Engagement Consultant

*She/Her*

M+ 1 416-357-2093